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DENVER, COLORADO

No. 8

National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colorado, January 13-20, 1934



JANUARY 1934

Official Organ of the
AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Sale in Transit of Live Stock at Denver

HAS BEEN DEFINITELY APPROVED BY
THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMIS-
SION AND WILL BE CONTINUED IN THE
FUTURE, THE SAME AS IN THE PAST,
WITHOUT CHARGE.



DENVER RECEIVED IN 1933 OVER FOUR
MILLION HEAD OF LIVE STOCK. IT HAD
TO BE A GOOD MARKET TO ATTRACT
THIS NUMBER. INVESTIGATION MAY
SHOW IT TO BE YOUR BEST MARKET.

Attend the National Western Stock Show, January 13-20





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THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume XV

DENVER, COLORADO, JANUARY, 1934

Number 8

Charles M. O'Donel

FOR THE SECOND TIME IN TWO MONTHS, death has struck among the leaders of the live-stock industry and the past presidents of the American National Live Stock Association. In November it was John B. Kendrick; on December 20, Charles M. O'Donel passed away.

O'Donel was one of those venturesome young Britishers who in the last decades of the nineteenth century came to the United States and helped build up the cattle kingdom west of the Missouri River. Born in Ireland in 1860, after a thorough education in England and on the continent of Europe, he joined the Queen's forces in South Africa, remaining there four years and seeing considerable fighting. From that period dates the military bearing which distinguished him to the end.

Soldiering over, in 1883 he crossed the Atlantic, settling in Texas two years later. Here, in the Panhandle, he entered the stock business as a "cow-hand," being intent on learning the tricks of the trade from the bottom up. After graduation from the school of experience, he went to New Mexico, and soon afterward became manager of the large, eastern-owned Bell Ranch, in San Miguel County, in the east-central part of the state, focusing his attention on development of the herd of finely bred Herefords which in time became famous all over the Southwest. Although in poor health for a number of years, he remained in active charge of the Bell Ranch until 1932, when he was succeeded as manager by Albert K. Mitchell, of Albert, New Mexico. He continued, however, to take a lively interest in the affairs of the ranch, to own stock in it, and to make his home there until his death.

The esteem in which O'Donel was held by his

fellow-stockmen found expression in the many calls to positions of trust and responsibility with which he was honored—and importuned. He never failed to respond, if the demand were insistent enough.



CHARLES M. O'DONEL

Shy of the limelight, always preferring to stay in the background, when once pressed into service, he put all his resources into the task. And he could be depended upon to acquit himself with credit.

From the very first he threw in his lot with the organized activities of the industry. For two terms he served as president of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association. In 1912 he was elected second vice-president of the American National Live Stock Association, and in 1919 became its first vice-president. Finally, in 1926, after much urging, he consented to accept the presidency, breaking its traditions by remaining in office only one year.

In the councils of the American National he was

a tower of strength. His keen mind, his wide range of information, his broad experience, and his quick grasp of the essentials in every problem made him a staff on which successive officers have leaned in critical moments. Many important decisions bear the imprint of his cool, clear judgment.

Those who were fortunate enough to dig under the carapace of his inborn and inbred British reserve added to their respect for his mental qualities the affection for a man genial and generous, full of the human traits which make friends.

O'Donel had been three times married. His last wife and two daughters survive him. Interment was at Denver.

The Unknown Cattle Country

BY MAJOR HENRY W. WALKER

"El Algodon," Rio Rupununi, British Guiana

HOW MANY PEOPLE, IF ASKED TO STATE offhand, could say where the Rupununi District lies? Yet it is by no means a small area, consisting, as it does, of about 30,000 square miles of glorious, open savannahs, undulating and dotted with small clumps of forest and scrubby bush, while most of the low-lying, swampy ground, or that liable to inundation, is marked by the tall, straight-rising trunks and waving crests of the stately Ité palm. Of those 30,000 square miles, about two-thirds are suitable for stock-raising and cattle-ranching, the remaining third being either forest or too swampy.

Actually, the Rupununi District is situated in British Guiana—the one British possession in the whole of the vast South American continent—and lies in the southeast corner of that colony, bordering on the Republic of Brazil. It is crossed by two parallel ranges of hills, the Kanaku and the Pakaraima Ranges, which, separated by a fertile and picturesque valley, about fifty miles across, run from east to west.

Ranches Few and Far Between

By the greatest stretch of imagination, it cannot be said that the Rupununi District is overpopulated, as, in all this huge stretch of country, there are only some twenty-five or thirty people who can legitimately lay claim to be called civilized. Of these, two are Englishwomen, two Englishmen, one an American, one a Spaniard, one an East Indian, one a Barbadian, one a Canadian, one a Brazilian, and the remainder Creoles, mostly of English parentage on

the one side, and born in the district, and who, indeed, form some of the very best settlers.

Most of the ranches are separated by long distances, which makes visiting a matter of some difficulty, calling, as it does, for the expenditure of a good deal of time and energy. Hence there is but little intercourse between ranchers, and the life is a decidedly lonely and isolated one, requiring considerable fortitude and determination "to make the best of everything," also ability to put up with a great many of life's discomforts, which, though perhaps small in themselves, are very numerous. On the other hand, its many and great advantages have not been described, whereas any minor disadvantage it possesses has been unduly exaggerated.

Major T. Bone, the government veterinary surgeon who, in company with his wife, visited the Rupununi savannahs in 1931, in the course of his report says:

The approach to the district is made either by river or by the cattle trail. Both routes are through forest. The journey by river is costly. It has no other disadvantage when the river water is high. When the river water is low, sandbanks make the voyage prolonged. It is a voyage full of interest, supplemented by minor thrills at the sight of boatmen working strenuously when negotiating rapids and falls. The journey by trail is also full of interest, but under present conditions is a trial of endurance.

Whether approached by river or by the cattle trail, the first introduction to the open savannahs is in the neighborhood of Annai, where are situated the government station for the district and the residence of the commissioner. Undulating grass-land,

surrounded by forest-clad hills, and a cool savannah breeze have an immediate, invigorating effect, and when it is taken into consideration that the three rivers and the innumerable creeks which crisscross the entire district are all swarming with fish, while



SCENE ON RUPUNUNI RIVER

game of every description is to be met with on every hand; that almost any kind of fruit and vegetable can be easily grown; and that nature has endowed the Rupununi District with necessities and luxuries possessed by few other countries, one is astounded that so very little is known of the attractions of the place by the residents along the coast and in other countries. To quote Major T. Bone once more: "The climate is healthy, the opportunities for development of savannahs and mountains are many. Only capital and settlers are required."

That there is likely to be a speedy return on capital, intelligently invested and safeguarded, in the cattle industry in the Rupununi is amply borne out by a statement made by R. E. Montgomery, the adviser on animal health to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who, in the early part of 1931, paid an extended visit to British Guiana and the West Indies, and in his report, among other things, said:

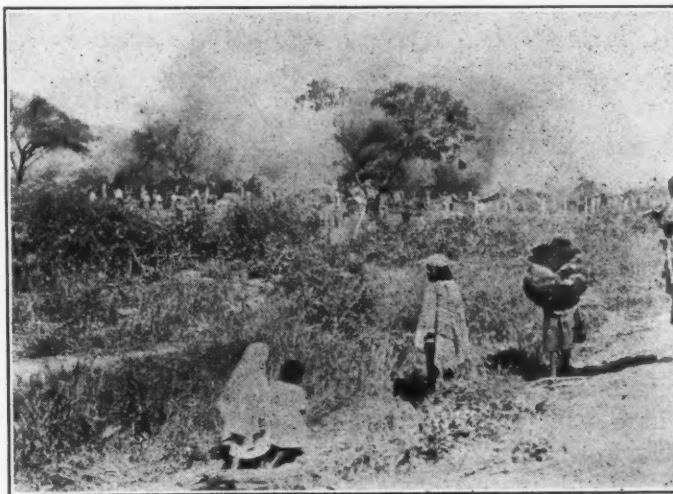
I have been enabled to make a survey of the stock situation in British Guiana and in the neighboring West Indian colonies. The neighboring British colonies collectively import about £1,000,000 worth of animal products for use as food. Some is of a high-grade quality, not immediately to be prepared locally, but representing no obstacles after the necessary industrial facilities have been provided. The majority is composed of live stock, barreled meats, and cooking fats procurable with less delay.

Cattle Mostly Scrubs

It is at present estimated that there are, roughly, 60,000 head of cattle on the Rupununi savannahs, which can all be said to be of the "scrub" variety; for, although about ten years ago the one large cattle

company in the neighborhood imported ten Hereford bulls from the United States of America, owing to insufficient care and attention, all these animals died before they were able to make more than a very evanescent impression on the herds. However, in December, 1931, there arrived in the colony four pedigreed Hereford bulls, consigned to the same cattle company. These animals are the first Hereford bulls to come to British Guiana from England for very many years. They were bought in Herefordshire, and are all animals of high-class meat strain. Before shipment, they underwent a two-month course of inoculation against "tick fever" at the Ministry of Agriculture's station at Weybridge, England, and, while it is not certain that they will be quite immune from tick fever in British Guiana, it is hoped that the strain of parasite used to immunize them will be effective against the disease here. Before coming up into the Rupununi District, moreover, these four bulls were acclimatized and accustomed to ticks and tropical conditions for several months at a ranch situated on the coast.

The one fault that is to be found throughout the local savannahs is that there is a deficiency of phosphates, and it is a common spectacle to see cattle standing about and solemnly chewing the bones of long-dead animals. This is a deficiency which can be remedied; but before it will be profitable to do so the cattle must be more domesticated, as at the present time they are nearly all extremely wild, being rounded up only occasionally, and as required.



INDIANS BURNING ENCAMPMENT, PREPARATORY TO LEAVING

The cattle graze in small herds, consisting of only eleven or twelve animals, and these have developed the habits of wild game. At the sight of a man half a mile distant, they will stop grazing, and after a few seconds take to flight at full gallop, seeking refuge in bush or swamp hollows, whence they have to be driven out by mounted *vaqueros*.

These *vaqueros* are mostly aboriginal Indians, Wapisianos and Macushies being the two most numerous tribes; but many ranchers prefer to employ half-breed Brazilians, as being quieter and more easily handled than the wild man of the savannahs.

The adage that wild men make wild cattle is proved in the Rupununi, and the methods adopted at round-ups by the local inhabitants were a matter of great surprise to the government veterinary surgeon, who gives his impressions thus:

A crowd of mounted *vaqueros* surround a mob of a few hundred cattle which have previously been collected. They begin to yell and scream. The cattle, already scared by unusual surroundings and their recent experiences of a round-up, attempt to break away. There is louder and louder screaming, and the galloping of horses hither and thither. After several attempts, the terrified animals are driven into the corral, and the *vaqueros* return to their headquarters . . . at full gallop.

Apropos of the recent introduction of Hereford bulls into the colony to improve the local breed of cattle, ranchers in the Rupununi were thrilled to read in a copy of the local Georgetown paper that the island of Trinidad has succeeded in evolving a new type of cattle. Under the heading, "Trinidad Ships Zebu Cattle," appears the following:

The Trinidad Government Farm continues to show the way to local farmers and dairy-keepers, and has demonstrated beyond any doubt the possibility of breeding *pure bread* cattle on economic lines in the colony.

It is to be hoped that this new breed will speedily be introduced into the Rupununi, where, at the present time, one of the greatest difficulties that the ranchers have to contend with is the almost complete absence of the daily loaf, due to the difficulty in obtaining flour.

Communal Grazing Practiced

Without any fear of contradiction, it may be stated that cattle-ranching in the Rupununi is in its infancy, as regards both methods and numbers engaged in the industry. The method of ranching is modeled on that prevailing in the adjacent Rio Branco district of Brazil, and in greater or less degree in all the Latin republics of South America, where communal grazing is practiced over immense, uninclosed areas; but perhaps in the Rupununi ranching is more a game of chance than in any other part of the huge continent which it has been my good fortune to visit, and which includes Brazil, Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Here the cattle are purchased, branded, and turned loose on the savannahs, and receive no further attention, or are no more seen until the yearly round-up is made for the purpose of branding the calves, except on those occasions when an animal is required for slaughter, or it becomes necessary to change the milch cows,

when those animals nearest to the ranch-house are rounded up and brought into the corral.

No selection of breeding animals is practiced, and on some ranches young bulls are not castrated until they are two or even three years old. The idea is that, by postponing the operation to a late age, better growth and greater weight are obtained. The result is that there is much inbreeding and breeding by grossly inferior stock, evidence of which is to be seen in the large numbers of hollow-backed animals which are to be met with.

The equipment of a Rupununi *vaquero*, whether he be an Indian or a half-breed Brazilian, consists of several grass-fed horses, a Brazilian-pattern saddle and bridle, on which he loves to display as many silver- or nickel-plated buckles and ornaments as he can find room for, and quite irrespective as to whether they are really necessary or not, and a plaited raw-hide lasso, in the use of which he is very rarely an adept, even dismounted. It is but very, very seldom that one sees a lasso being used by a mounted man.

The stirrup irons in use by the *vaqueros* are very small, as, Indian fashion, they usually ride with only one or two toes in the iron; for all ride bare-footed. But no Rupununi *vaquero* would consider his equipment complete unless it included at least one huge iron spur, with rowels an inch or more long, firmly fastened to his bare heel with strips of raw-hide. The bits used are very severe, with very large ports, and, in addition to the bit, have a curved band of serrated iron passing around the horse's nose. It is quite customary to dispense with the bit proper and to depend entirely on this nose-band.

District Free from Contagious Diseases

One important point to be noticed about the district is that it is remarkably free from serious outbreaks of contagious and infectious diseases, but ticks cause much trouble, and so backward is the state of the cattle industry in this part of the world that there is not at present a single cattle-dip in the whole colony—a lamentable state of affairs, for which ignorance and lack of capital are both responsible.

Here, then, is a brief outline of an unknown cattle country, which, nevertheless, offers boundless possibilities to the right type of settler who is possessed of a sufficiency of capital. But the life is a hard one.

Several thousand aboriginal Indians, of whom the Macushies, the Wapisianos, and the Wei-weis predominate, inhabit the district. These are willing workers, keen on any job on which they may be employed, and, under proper and careful tuition, become wonderfully efficient; while, as for their customs and characteristics, one could fill volumes.

At the present time, land can be rented from the government for the purely nominal figure of \$15 per fifty square miles. There are vast areas of land now lying idle and unoccupied, but suitable for grazing hundreds of thousands of cattle. The first essential to any improvement, however, is sufficient and adequate fencing, and, as transport to the district is an expensive item, it is suggested that wire, etc., be obtained through Manaós, in Brazil.

It has also been suggested that a small area be fenced and paddocked near the government headquarters by the government, and that a number of young Hereford, Zebu, Sussex, and Aberdeen bulls be introduced and, after immunization, sold to ranchers on easy terms against security. Selected heifers might also be kept on this farm. Only animals of a beef type should be introduced, as, at present, there are no facilities for the marketing of dairy produce.

Unfortunately, however, in view of the state of the colony's finances and the sparse settlement of the district, even this suggestion does not appear to be at present feasible.

ACCREDITATION OF RANGE HERDS

AS BRIEFLY ANNOUNCED IN THE DECEMBER PRODUCER, a point of vital importance to the range country was gained at the annual meeting of the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association in Chicago, December 6-8, in that an amendment was adopted to the rules for accrediting cattle herds in range and semi-range territory, giving ranchmen the option of securing post-mortem reports on cows slaughtered at federally inspected packing-houses, in place of having a portion of their range breeding herds tuberculin-tested as a basis for designation as tuberculosis-free.

Section 20 of the new rules for the establishment of accredited areas follows:

"A county or area may become a modified accredited area in the range or semi-range area upon compliance with paragraph (a) or (b), and other provisions of this section:

"(a) When all bulls, purebred breeding cattle, milk cows, at least 10 per cent of the semi-range breeding females, and such other cattle as may be considered necessary by the state and federal department co-operating are tuberculin-tested.

"(b) When all bulls, purebred breeding cattle, milk cows, barnyard cows, and home-fed cattle are tuberculin-tested, and properly identified post-mortem reports are produced showing that at least 10 per cent and not less than twenty-five animals of the breeding herd have been slaughtered within a year, and that such post-mortem examination failed to disclose lesions of tuberculosis.

"If, under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, a reactor or any other evidence of infection is revealed in any herd by post-mortem reports, etc., including post-mortem inspection at packing plants of those branded cattle that are sold direct from the range for immediate slaughter, then all of the cattle in that herd or associated with the diseased animal shall be immediately tuberculin-tested in accordance with the provisions of the Modified Accredited Area Plan. The area may then become a modified accredited area, and be re-accredited at the expiration of three years, if the total number of reactors and cattle found tuberculous upon post-mortem examination from the area is not more than one-half of one per cent of all the cattle in the area."

The procedure for accrediting under (a) is the old method, which can still be used if desired, while the procedure called for under (b) is the alternative plan now recognized. This is the plan that has been sponsored by the American National Live Stock Association. Much credit is due J. Elmer Brock, chairman of the Special Committee on Tuberculosis Testing, which was formed by the association three years ago, and which has co-operated with Secretary Mollin in advocating a modification of the old plan. The American National has been represented at the last three annual meetings of the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association, and the insistence of our representatives that the plan should be modified finally has brought the desired result.

More than a year ago, Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, authorized a careful check of the post-mortem records at the principal packing centers to determine the practicability of our plan. This study has been continued for the last two marketing seasons, and, as a result, Dr. Mohler became convinced that we were on the right track, and his urging, more than anything else, brought the change in the attitude of the sanitary officials. Dr. Charles E. Cotton, chairman of the Tuberculosis Committee of the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association, while originally opposed to the modification, very courteously allowed our representatives to appear before his committee each year, and was himself finally won over.

After all, the aim of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association is to eradicate tuberculosis—not to see how many cows can be tested, whether or not they have the disease; and, beyond question, the work can be very much expedited under the new plan. Already certain states are applying to the Civil Works Administration for funds for this purpose, as shown in the attached item, and the sooner this work is now pushed to a conclusion, the better it will be for the entire industry.

* * *

Civil Works Administration funds to the amount of \$27,700 have been allotted by Wallace Crossley, state administrator for Missouri, for use in area testing for bovine tuberculosis in that state. It is estimated that this sum is sufficient to furnish employment for forty veterinarians and forty helpers for two months.

Oklahoma is believed to be the first state to secure CWA money for area testing. Recently \$48,000 was allowed for this purpose. Steps are being taken in Kansas to the same end. By such grants, the campaign for eradication of tuberculosis in cattle will be speeded up in states which have failed to make sufficient appropriations for this work.

INCREASE IN DUTY ON CANNED MEAT APPLIED FOR

APPLICATION FOR AN INVESTIGATION INTO COST of production of meats in South America, with a view to increasing the tariff rate of 6 cents a pound by the 50 per cent permissible under the flexible provision of the Tariff Act, has been filed with the United States Tariff Commission by F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association. In spite of this import duty, argues Mr. Mollin, "we find South American canned beef on the shelves of practically every grocery store in this country, thus displacing home-grown product. Imports have actually increased during the last few months, regardless of the fact that cattle prices have been constantly

decreasing." Hence it is believed that the present duty "is less than is necessary to equalize the difference in cost of production for said articles in the United States and in the principal competing countries."

"A recent check of the valuation placed upon the imports from the principal competing countries," Mr. Mollin goes on to say, "shows a price of about 6 cents a pound at point of export, which would mean that the cost of the animals from which the product was obtained could not possibly exceed 1 cent a pound. The bids on domestic canned beef which have recently been received by the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation from the principal packing plants of this country indicate that the full increase permissible under the flexible provision of the act would be necessary to protect the domestic industry against these increasing imports."

Imports of canned meats (chiefly from Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil), it is shown, for the year 1931 were 18,926,000 pounds; for 1932, 22,853,000 pounds; and for the first ten months of 1933, 35,374,000 pounds. Against this, farm prices on beef cattle in the United States for the five months from July to November, inclusive, averaged as follows: July, \$3.97 per hundredweight; August, \$3.79; September, \$3.61; October, \$3.50; November, \$3.32.

BEEF FOR COLORADO'S UNEMPLOYED

LAST MONTH WORD WAS RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON that beef cows to the number of between 2,000 and 2,500 would be bought in Colorado by the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation, and turned into corned beef by the packers for distribution among the needy of that state. The cows were to be purchased direct from ranchmen, it was stated. Weight was to be at least 900 pounds, and the cost must not exceed \$2 per hundredweight. Total expenditure on the project would amount to \$75,000. The animals were to be consigned to the two federal inspection points of Denver and Pueblo.

Later these figures were whittled down to 1,250 cows and an outlay of \$35,000.

Concerning the proposed price of \$2, F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, sent the following telegram to Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator:

"Several press reports within last few days refer to proposed plan to buy good-quality cows weighing from nine hundred pounds up, at price of two dollars per hundred. Proposed price would be bearish even on present depressed markets. Our industry entirely unable to understand insistence of your organization that beef for relief purposes must be purchased on basis of present distressed prices and your unwillingness to allow such purchases even normally to advance the market. Hence, although much publicity has been given to proposed plans for purchasing beef during past three months, when it would have been of great help, as that is regular fall shipping season, actually practically no beef has been purchased. In civil-works projects now under your care you are paying generous wages for common labor. Why do you insist on buying cows at the bottom of a distressed market?"

FRESH BEEF FOR INDIGENT OF ARIZONA

LAST MONTH WE MENTIONED THE EFFORT MADE by citizens of Arizona interested in the cattle business to get government sanction for a plan to provide the hungry of the state with fresh beef from home-grown cattle. Such approval has now been secured. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration, deciding to use Arizona as a test case, has

authorized the distribution of 100,000 pounds of fresh beef monthly among the 20,000 or so needy families in the state. With a dressing percentage of 50 per cent, this would mean about 500 head of 800-pound animals a month. However, if the experiment proves to the satisfaction of the administration that the beef can be successfully handled in this way, there is a strong possibility that the amount may be increased—perhaps doubled.

PACKER POLICY CONCERNING HOGS

TO SET AT REST SPECULATION AS TO THE ATTITUDE of the packers on the processing tax on hogs and the production-control program put into effect by the Department of Agriculture, the following statement has been issued by Wm. Whitfield Woods, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers:

"Live-stock prices are low because the production of meat during the year, and particularly recent months, has been very large as the result of heavy marketing of live stock, and the increased meat supply has been larger than the consumer, with his relatively low purchasing power, could take at prices satisfactory to the producer.

"For the year as a whole, meat production was about a billion pounds heavier than in 1932. This is an increase of 7.6 per cent. In November alone the number of live stock dressed exceeded the number in November, 1932, by about 900,000 head. In December, marketings continued to be heavy.

"With production so heavy, the packing industry has been unable to get better prices for meat. As a matter of fact, pork prices have been lower since the processing tax went into effect, because of the low purchasing power and increased supplies. In fact, it has been impossible to move the increased production into consumption except at lower prices, and, as a consequence, hog prices have also been low.

"The processing tax has, of course, been a direct factor in current prices; but, in fairness, it should not be overlooked that from the funds derived from the tax the farmer will receive, in addition to the current price of hogs, a benefit payment from the government if he agrees to reduce corn and hog production, and that, if efforts to reduce supplies are successful, hog prices should be affected accordingly. The administration also has used funds to reduce the supply of hogs for the coming year and is purchasing pork products for relief.

"While there has naturally been some difference of opinion regarding the plan to reduce corn acreage and hog production, the plan is now being put into effect, and a trial will determine its practicability. The packing industry, while reserving the right to express its own views on any development, will help to make the plan fully and fairly understood by those from whom it buys live stock."

OLEOMARGARINE LEGISLATION

IN ITS FIRST RULING IN A MARGARINE CASE, AND the first test, it is said, of the principle of taxing food products, the Supreme Court of the United States on December 4 declared invalid the tax of 10 cents a pound placed by the Kentucky Legislature on oleomargarine. The court upheld the decision of the Federal District Court granting an injunction to restrain the state from collecting the tax. In approving the finding of the lower court, however, the Supreme Court left the way open for imposition of a tax if permitted under the state constitution, or if, by reason of a change in circumstances, the statute may be regarded as imposing a valid tax.

Besides Kentucky, fourteen states have passed bills for the taxing of oleomargarine, and the law of the State of Washington is now under review by the Supreme Court.

Several legislatures, now in session, have before them taxing bills. The governors of Illinois and California have vetoed taxing bills, and in five states (California, Colorado, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington) the voters in referendums have rejected such bills.

DAIRY INTERESTS SUBMIT PROPOSALS

A PLAN FOR PROTECTING DAIRY FARMERS OF the United States, and for controlling national production of milk and its products, was presented to Secretary of Agriculture Wallace by the National Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation last month. Following is a summary of the eight points covered by the plan:

1. Protection of domestic market by restricting imports of dairy products, and of fats and oils, and by controlling manufacture of oleomargarine.
2. Elimination of tubercular and other diseased dairy cows.
3. Herd improvement and more economical feeding.
4. Guarantee that land on which rentals are being paid to secure reductions in corn and wheat acreage is not planted to crops which might be used as feed for dairy animals.
5. Program involving land classification, and taking marginal and submarginal land out of cultivation and restoring it to public domain.
6. Some permanent plan for controlling production of butter-fat.
7. Processing tax of not to exceed 5 per cent ad valorem per pound of butter-fat equivalent, for such time as may be necessary.
8. If above program should fail of its purpose, then allotment, acreage reduction, or such other control plan as may seem feasible.

Following investigations and conferences by a special committee of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, a processing tax on milk, as a first step toward increasing prices on milk and dairy products, has been decided upon. The basic tax is understood to be 1 cent per pound of butter-fat, but will vary in different periods of the marketing year.

FARM ORGANIZATIONS IN CONVENTION

MEETING IN ANNUAL CONVENTION, TWO OF THE leading agricultural organizations in the United States, the National Grange and the American Farm Bureau Federation, expressed their sentiments on the issues of the day as they touch the farm life of the country. Below we present a record of the action taken:

National Grange

The sixty-seventh annual session of the National Grange was held at Boise, Idaho, November 15-24, 1933, with thirty-two states represented. Entire harmony prevailed throughout. Of the seventy-five resolutions considered, not one required a roll-call. Progress of the organization was shown by the fact that more than 400 new local units had been formed during the year. A summary of the more important policies adopted follows:

The Grange favored—

Controlled expansion of currency to bring about rise in commodity price-level;

Issuance by government of non-interest-bearing treasury notes to pay at least part of public-works program, with definite provision for redemption at given rate per year;

Material reduction in interest rates to farmer borrowers of federal loan system;

Every possible means to stop farm mortgage foreclosures;

Postponement of arbitrary and artificial price-boosting in industry until farm prices have been brought to same level as industrial prices;

Embargo on importation of agricultural products seriously interfering with marketing of American products;

Extension of federal graduated income tax, and enactment of income-tax laws in all states not already having such;

Speedy action in disposing of wheat surpluses;

New land policy, with greater amount of submarginal land taken out of production;

Limitation of manufacture of oleomargarine, and restriction of importation of foreign oils and fats;

Construction of inland waterway from Great Lakes to sea;

Co-operation with other farm organizations and with organized labor.

The Grange opposed—

Bringing any new land under cultivation while present farm surplus continues;

Injustice to farmers who have reduced crop acreage by not requiring that reduction apply to all sections;

Excessive processing charges to agricultural producers.

National Master Louis J. Taber was re-elected for the eleventh time. Connecticut was chosen as the state where the 1934 session will be held.

* * *

American Farm Bureau Federation

United support of the administration's agricultural program was pledged by the American Farm Bureau Federation, in convention at Chicago last month. Opposition to this legislation, it was asserted, was largely confined to those who had enjoyed unfair advantages under the old system. Among the speakers were Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and George N. Peek, then Agricultural Adjustment Administrator. While there had been a considerable falling-off in membership during the past two years, due to the depression, a gain was now again reported. Resolutions were adopted—

Urging that every power be immediately invoked to put into effect parity prices on farm commodities;

Protesting against absorption by producers of processing taxes levied;

Favoring broadening of Agricultural Adjustment Act to include other important products;

Advocating further development of home market as means of controlling surpluses;

Asking that government's licensing power over dealers, processors, and middlemen be extended, especially to those who handle imported commodities;

Pointing out inconsistency in developing new farm lands at time when farmers are cutting down production;

Urging that breaches in tariff wall be closed by placing embargo on foreign oils and fats, and other agricultural commodities coming into competition with home-grown products;

Objecting to large importations of canned and cured meats;

Favoring immediate independence for Philippines, with period of not to exceed five years in which to adjust their commerce;

Recommending granting of proper credits to Soviet government for purchase of our farm products;

Requesting that Secretary of Agriculture take necessary steps for control of direct buying of live stock.

Edward A. O'Neal was unanimously re-elected president.

"I enjoy THE PRODUCER very much."—J. A. SCORUP, Moab, Utah.

BEEF CONFERENCE AT CHICAGO

A CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN CHICAGO ON DECEMBER 6 between Harry A. Petrie, adviser on cattle and sheep to the Production Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and about forty representatives of stockmen in the central and western states. Secretary Mollin attended for the American National Live Stock Association.

Conditions in the industry in the various sections were outlined, and suggestions were made as to their improvement. Mr. Petrie did not intimate what action would be taken, but said that the information and recommendations which he had received would be embodied in a report, to be submitted to officials of the Department of Agriculture at Washington. Another conference will be called in the near future, when the dairy interests will be given an opportunity to present their views.

At the close of the Chicago meeting, a telegram was sent to the President by a group of stockmen, setting out the deplorable state of the beef industry and urging that certain remedial measures be undertaken.

SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION OF MEAT BOARD

ON DECEMBER 8 THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND Meat Board met in semi-annual session at Chicago, with a full attendance of members. Charles D. Carey, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, chairman of the board, presided.

In his report, R. C. Pollock, general manager, covered the activities of the board for the past six months. He reviewed what had been done in the way of educational work in schools and colleges, as well as with housewives, physicians, dietitians, and meat-retailers, and spoke of the researches carried on at experiment stations, which are bringing out new facts with regard to the high qualities of meat as a food. An account was given of the meat exhibit at the Century of Progress, and at fairs and live-stock expositions, which had been valuable as an advertising medium and had helped in stimulating consumption. An important new project mentioned by Mr. Pollock was the national meat-cookery school, from which much is expected. He was authorized to expand this program during the next half-year.

W. E. Stephens, president of the Pacific Live Stock and Meat Institute, described the work done in the interest of the meat industry in the San Francisco Bay area. Dr. Leo K. Campbell, of Rush Medical College, Chicago, reported on a study of meat as a factor in reducing diets carried on at the college. Progress in the government meat-stamping service was detailed by W. C. Davis, meat specialist of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATIONS MEET

THE ANNUAL CONVENTIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA Cattlemen's Association and the Western Cattle Marketing Association were held at San Francisco on December 8 and 9, 1933. Among the important subjects discussed was that of enlarging the scope of the Cattlemen's Association and providing a more representative Board of Directors.

On the morning of the first day, after the preliminaries were completed, Secretary John Curry submitted his report, and at the opening of the afternoon's session President Philip A. Klipstein delivered his annual address, in which he

set forth the plans for reorganization, especially in connection with the Marketing Association, which it is proposed to divorce completely from the Cattlemen's Association. Frank Hauser, a packer of Los Angeles, spoke on the pending packers' marketing agreement. Informal debate followed on tax problems, highway liability, and the bovine-tuberculosis situation.

Proceedings on the second day were commenced with a paper on "Brush-Burning and Range Feed Experiments," presented by Professor H. R. Guilbert, of the University of California. Suggestions for disposal of diseased dairy cows were made by Dr. Boyd, of the Division of Animal Industry of the California State Department of Agriculture. Carsten Schmidt, executive secretary of the Wholesale Packers' Association of the San Francisco Bay District, and Chancellor K. Grady, executive secretary of the California Retail Meat Dealers' Association, dealt with "Problems of the Jobber and Retailer." The work of the Pacific Live Stock and Meat Institute in promoting the sale of meat was outlined by Davenport Phelps, manager of that institute. W. D. Ellis, president of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank at Berkeley, explained the general policy of the Farm Credit Administration, and F. H. Ramsay, president of the Pacific National Agricultural Credit Corporation, urged producers to take a real interest in these new credit agencies. Modern trends in beef cattle marketing were analyzed by W. E. Schneider, federal and state live-stock reporter at San Francisco.

A strong appeal for support of the American National Live Stock Association was made by Hubbard Russell, of Los Angeles, vice-president of that organization and member of its Committee of Five, who pointed out that the American National was the only body representing the cattle industry at Washington in these critical times.

Saturday evening, December 9, an enjoyable banquet, followed by a dance, was tendered the cowmen at the Palace Hotel, where the convention was held.

Resolutions adopted are summarized below:

Urging 50 per cent increase in tariff on all live stock and live-stock products, increase to 50 per cent ad valorem on canned meat, increase to 6 cents a pound on green hides, and corresponding increase on dry hides;

Expressing appreciation of increased purchases by federal government of American-grown meats, and urging extension of such purchases;

Appreciating efforts of Dr. John R. Mohler to enforce embargo against importation of meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease prevails, and urging officials at Washington to be constantly on guard against any slackening in provisions to that end;

Requesting President of United States to see to it that some action be taken with respect to cattle-marketing agreement and other acts for benefit of cattle industry;

Asking all marketing agencies to co-operate in extending to live-stock industry help long overdue by lowering marketing costs, and thanking those that have already made such reductions;

Opposing any action that may be taken to enforce order of Secretary of Interior for removal of fences from public domain until Congress has had opportunity to deal with question;

Indorsing plan for tuberculin-testing of dairy cows of state and for destroying reactors, owners to be indemnified through levy of processing tax on milk-fat and dairy substitutes;

Requesting Southern Pacific Company to grant temporary reduction of 30 per cent in rental charges on lands used for cattle-grazing;

Asking that federal permits be issued to qualified plants in California, Nevada, Oregon, and Arizona for canning of meats under state inspection for relief of unemployed within those states;

Recommending tax of not less than 10 cents a pound on all oleomargarine made from oils and fats produced outside

of United States, and administrative tax of one-fourth cent a pound on margarine manufactured from domestic fats and oils;

Urging enactment of law providing for immediate transfer of public domain, including mineral rights, to respective states, with privilege to accept or reject title;

Asking that sufficient appropriations be made to carry on experimentations with respect to erosion and brush-burning;

Urging that work of Pacific Live Stock and Meat Institute for increase of beef consumption be continued, and that commission men in intermountain states and on west coast follow example of Middle West in deducting 25 cents from price of each carload of live stock shipped to market, to be matched by similar amount from buyer, for use in meat-educational program;

Requesting that additional funds be allocated for predatory-animal control in western states;

Petitioning Secretary of Agriculture for 50 per cent reduction in grazing fees on national forests for 1934;

Asking federal loan agencies, in making appraisals for loans, to give same consideration to range use and privilege on public lands appurtenant to deeded lands as given to those running stock solely on deeded lands;

Expressing appreciation of American National Live Stock Association, Committee of Five, and Secretary Mollin for efforts put forth during past year to relieve distress of cattlemen;

Providing for giving California Cattlemen's Association a more general representation through re-zoning and increase in membership of Board of Directors;

Urging retention of Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations during present emergency;

Recommending that each cowman give a calf for support of American National Live Stock Association.

Election of officers was postponed until January 6, when another meeting will be held.

CALIFORNIA SUPPORTING AMERICAN NATIONAL

WRITING IN "WESTERN CATTLE MARKET AND News" of December 4, Philip A. Klipstein, president of the California Cattlemen's Association and of the newly formed Cattle Producers' Association of the Western States, in stating the objects of the latter organization, as set out in our December issue, has this to say about the American National Live Stock Association:

"We fully recognize the American National Live Stock Association as the parent organization of the cattle industry, and it is to them we will look for much-needed help, such as national legislation and dealings directly with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Institute of American Meat Packers as regards marketing agreements, surpluses, etc. It is our intent, through our strongly rebuilt California Cattlemen's Association and the Cattle Producers' Association of the Western States, to get behind the American National financially and with all our power, to the end that we may, some time in the near future, get cost of production for our cattle."

In a companion article, in the same weekly, by John Curry, secretary of the two associations named above, on the proposed plans for extending the field of activities and service of the California Cattlemen's Association, mention is made of the American National in these words:

"The work of this organization is most important in order to facilitate the presentation of views at Washington in matters which are common to the western states. It is much more effective to work through this one organization than for each state to present its individual views. The California Cattlemen's Association expects to contribute far more to the support of the American National than it has in the past. This is most necessary, particularly on account of the expense incurred by the American National in working on the packers' marketing agreement and in looking after other important matters at Washington."

WESTERN-SLOPE CATTLEMEN STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATION

AT A SERIES OF ENTHUSIASTIC MEETINGS, OPENING in Hayden, Colorado, December 12, continuing, in order, at Meeker, Rifle, Collbran, and Montrose, and concluding at Gunnison on December 16, western-slope cattlemen voiced their intention to leave no stone unturned that might lead to bettering conditions in their industry. Convinced that it is up to the cowman to seek his own way out of the predicament in which he finds himself, and that he can best accomplish that purpose by increasing the strength of the organizations working in his behalf, not only did the stockmen insure practically 100 per cent support for their local associations, but it is planned to vote an assessment of one cent per head for the American National Live Stock Association. A delegation is being sent to the national convention at Albuquerque.

Secretary Mollin and F. R. Carpenter, of Hayden, addressed all the meetings, the former speaking of the unsuccessful efforts made to get the AAA to sanction a marketing agreement, and the FSRC to buy any beef for relief purposes, after having filled columns of press reports for three months telling what they were going to do. Mr. Carpenter urged the necessity of every cattleman's doing his bit to support a national program, showing how little had been spent in the past for this purpose, compared with almost any other group of agricultural producers.

George Watson, of Eagle, president of the Western Slope Cattlemen's Association, presided at the first four meetings; Verdie Hotchkiss, president of the Uncompahgre Cattle Growers' Association, at the Montrose meeting; and Le Van Easterly, vice-president of the Gunnison County Cattle Growers' Association, at the Gunnison meeting.

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS ASSOCIATION JOINS AMERICAN NATIONAL

AT THE ANNUAL FALL MEETING OF THE STEAMBOAT SPRINGS (Colorado) Cattle Growers' Association, held on December 23, 1933, a resolution was passed expressing "appreciation of the efforts of the American National Live Stock Association and the Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association, and especially of their secretaries, F. E. Mollin and Dr. B. F. Davis, in promoting the welfare of the cattle industry of the State of Colorado."

By unanimous vote, it was decided to join the American National.

ALL BRANCHES OF ARIZONA LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY IN CONFERENCE

UPON CALL OF GOVERNOR B. B. MOEUR, APPROXIMATELY two hundred representatives of Arizona's live-stock industry, including cattle-growers, feeders of beef cattle, milk-producers, and sheepmen, met in Phoenix on December 29 to discuss the critical situation facing the stockmen today. It was the conclusion of those present that the major problems of the industry can be solved only through the agencies of the federal government. After a thorough discussion, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Petitioning President and Tariff Commission to increase existing import duties on canned and frozen meats, hides, leather, animal and vegetable oils and fats, and such other commodities as come into competition with domestic live-stock

and dairy products; where effective duties cannot be applied, Secretary of Agriculture was urged to make use of processing taxes;

Favoring legislation to provide for certificates on exports of live stock, and live-stock and dairy products, equivalent to 40 per cent ad valorem, to be accepted for payment of duties on importations of other commodities;

Advocating production-control plan, such plan to embrace slaughter and tanking of canner beef cows and dairy heifer calves; slaughter and marketing of weaners, beef heifer calves, and yearling beef heifers; exclusive use of roughage versus grain feeding to dairy cows; and benefit payments to co-operating cattlemen and dairymen;

Urging that effective measures be taken to lower cost of distribution of live-stock and dairy products, or, if all other means fail, that present methods be drastically changed or discarded entirely;

Holding that as large a quantity as possible of beef and pork supplies required by government for emergency relief be secured without delay by purchase of live animals at prices at least equivalent to cost of production;

Requesting that Secretary of Agriculture use funds available for eradication of tubercular cows and other diseased animals, and that their carcasses be disposed of through other channels than that of consumption;

Indorsing President's currency, commodity-dollar, and silver-purchasing program, and all other policies looking to improvement of economic conditions.

PUBLIC-LAND POLICY OF SECRETARY ICKES INDORSED

UNQUALIFIED APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC-DO-
main policy of Secretary of the Interior Ickes, as outlined in his recent article in the *Saturday Evening Post*, was voted by the Board of Directors of the Mesa-Alto Live Stock Association of Otero County, New Mexico, meeting in Alamogordo on December 22. The article in question expressed the desire of the secretary to assist the cattle industry in every way consistent with the conservation and proper development of the domain, and indorsed the bill introduced in Congress by Representative Edward T. Taylor, of Colorado, for the protection and orderly use of the public grazing lands, and the stabilization of the range live-stock industry. The meeting asked the congressional delegation of New Mexico to support this bill.

In another resolution, request was made of Dennis Chaves, the state's sole member in the House of Representatives, to introduce a resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to postpone any action with reference to the removal of fences from the public domain for a period of sixty days, or until Congress has had time to enact permanent legislation.

Members of the association attending the conventions in Albuquerque, January 10-12, were instructed to urge the adoption of this program by both the state and national associations.

ALEXANDER LEGGE DIES

ALEXANDER LEGGE, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY and the first chairman of the defunct Federal Farm Board, died suddenly at his home near Chicago on December 3, stricken with a heart attack. A man of dynamic personality, as head of the Farm Board Mr. Legge devoted his boundless energies to educating the farmers of the nation in control of their own marketing system. In this work he encountered much opposition, and he carried on the fight hotly, but always loyally and good-naturedly, and his sincerity and integrity were never questioned.

NEW OFFICERS OF HEREFORD ASSOCIATION

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, held in Kansas City, Missouri, during the week of the American Royal Live Stock Show, November 18-25, 1933, Herbert Chandler, of Baker, Oregon, was elected president, succeeding Robert H. Hazlett, of Eldorado, Kansas. Wood Harris, of Harris, Missouri, was chosen vice-president. R. J. Kinzer, of Kansas City, secretary for many years, continues in that position.

DATE FOR DENVER COMMISSION-RATE HEARING CHANGED

DATE OF THE HEARING ON RATES AND CHARGES filed and put into effect by commission firms doing business at the Union Stock Yards, Denver, has been advanced from February 16, as previously announced, to February 14, by order of Acting Secretary of Agriculture R. G. Tugwell. All interested parties are invited to present such evidence as may seem relevant to the case.

CROPS OF 1933

FINAL CROP ESTIMATES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR have been issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and are published below, with comparisons for 1932 and 1931. Figures are in thousands, three ciphers having been omitted:

| | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Winter wheat (bu.)..... | 351,030 | 475,709 | 817,962 |
| Spring wheat (bu.)..... | 176,383 | 268,367 | 114,259 |
| All wheat (bu.)..... | 427,413 | 744,076 | 932,221 |
| Corn (bu.)..... | 2,330,237 | 2,906,873 | 2,588,509 |
| Oats (bu.)..... | 722,485 | 1,246,658 | 1,126,913 |
| Barley (bu.)..... | 156,104 | 302,042 | 198,543 |
| Rye (bu.)..... | 21,184 | 40,639 | 32,290 |
| Rice (bu.)..... | 35,619 | 40,408 | 44,873 |
| Flaxseed (bu.)..... | 6,785 | 11,671 | 11,798 |
| Grain sorghums (bu.)..... | 87,884 | 106,306 | 105,369 |
| Potatoes (bu.)..... | 317,143 | 358,009 | 372,994 |
| Sweet potatoes (bu.)..... | 65,073 | 78,431 | 63,043 |
| Hay, tame (tons)..... | 65,852 | 70,268 | 65,341 |
| Hay, wild (tons)..... | 8,633 | 12,137 | 8,367 |
| Sugar-beets (tons)..... | 11,085 | 9,070 | 7,903 |
| Cotton (bales)..... | 13,177 | 13,002 | 17,095 |

Combined value of all crops in the United States on December 1, 1933, was given as \$4,076,537,000, compared with \$2,879,517,000 in 1932 and \$4,102,354,000 in 1931; that of corn, as \$917,605,000 in 1933, \$558,902,000 in 1932, and \$929,147,000 in 1931; and that of wheat, as \$357,525,000 in 1933, \$238,305,000 in 1932, and \$413,075,000 in 1931.

THE CALENDAR

January 13-20, 1934—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.

January 16-18, 1934—Annual Convention of National Wool Growers' Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

January 17, 1934—Mid-Winter Meeting of Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association, Denver, Colo.

January 29-31, 1934—Annual Convention of Montana Wool Growers' Association, Billings, Mont.

February 13-14, 1934—Annual Convention of Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, Prescott, Ariz.

February 24-March 4, 1934—Houston Fat Stock Show, Houston, Tex.

March 10-19, 1934—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.

March 20-22, 1934—Annual Convention of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, San Antonio, Tex.

THE PRODUCER

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Volume XV JANUARY, 1934 Number 8

MANY A MICKLE MAKES A MUCKLE

THERE ARE MORE THAN 15,000,000 BEEF cattle in the range territory west of the Missouri River. For half a century the cattlemen of this region have been content to work along largely on individualistic lines, forming associations for co-operative effort only under stress of some great emergency, and leaving them to struggle along half-nourished after the immediate crisis was over. These organizations have been supported almost entirely upon a voluntary basis, and in each case it has devolved upon a comparatively small number of loyal men to carry the greater part of the load.

Bad as conditions are today, is there a single stockman who cannot afford to invest a cent a head annually to insure the support of a virile national organization—one that will adopt a live program and have the funds to push for its success? If only half the cattlemen contributed on that basis, a \$75,000 budget would permit the extension of our fine traffic service; the maintenance of a legislative committee to supplement the secretary's work in Washington, with money to pay their expenses whenever called upon to serve; a publicity department to keep ever before the people the knowledge that the cattle industry is one of the great industries of the nation, and demand-

ing recognition as such; and a field service that would keep the organization up to par, and maintain proper contacts with state and local associations.

The announcements elsewhere in this issue of measures recently taken by Arizona and Colorado cattlemen to insure proper support for a national program indicate that the outline suggested above can be made more than a dream, if the spirit that prompted those extraordinary endeavors can be brought into play elsewhere.

We believe that it can, and that the scene which took place at Meeker, Colorado, on December 13, when about one hundred cattlemen filed up, following the addresses by Secretary Mollin and F. R. Carpenter, and planked down some \$200 in cash, can be duplicated in every cow town in the West, *if the right men in each community get back of it.*

There is need for leadership in the industry today, such as never existed before. Won't you rise to meet it—you and you and you—and organize the cattle-producers in your territory? The American National Live Stock Association in the past has been to a considerable degree an organization of large cattlemen. We must get in touch with the little fellow, and make it a great association of *all* the cattlemen. The path is cleared for us to go forward. The rank and file are ready to respond to the call. It remains only for the leader to appear.

ANIMAL AND HUMAN HEALTH

IT HAS BEEN CLEARLY SHOWN MANY TIMES that there is a close relationship between animal and human health. A few months ago we called attention to the sharp decrease in tuberculosis among humans coincident with a drop from 4.1 to 1.5 per cent in the number of bovine reactors, the bulk of which come from animals of the dairy breeds. It is fortunate that the beef cattle of the nation are produced under exceptionally clean and disease-free conditions. Nevertheless, it has been demonstrated that widespread infection among dairy cattle before the start of the tuberculosis campaign in 1917, the vicious shipping of infected dairy animals into clean states, and a smaller degree of infection among purebred bulls of certain beef types, before the shipping regulations were tightened up, have all contributed to the creation of limited areas of infection even among range and semi-range herds. This is particularly true where homesteaders, with small herds of nondescript animals, have invaded semi-range territory.

For three years the American National Live Stock Association has fought for more favorable regula-

tions under which to expedite the accreditation of range and semi-range areas. That effort was crowned with success at the recent annual meeting of the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association, as reported elsewhere in this issue. The acceptance of the alternative plan suggested by us was by an almost unanimous vote.

In some quarters there has been a lack of understanding of our effort. It has been insinuated that we were attempting to block the progress of the eradication work. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Instead, *we have been doing everything possible to hasten the wiping-out of tuberculosis.* That alone has been our object, rather than the mere testing of cows, most of which, in this part of the country, do not have the disease.

Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, after careful study of the method of checking post-mortem records at packing-houses, gave us his unqualified support. Live-stock commissioners at central markets likewise contributed materially to the success of our undertaking. Beyond question, this step will very materially hasten the accreditation of range and semi-range areas, and the removal of obnoxious restrictions on the interstate movement of feeder cattle.

CWA funds are being allotted to further this work in states where appropriations are not sufficient for the purpose. We urge stockmen to get behind this movement and push for the establishment of tuberculosis-free accredited areas at the first opportunity. Follow your shipments of breeding stock through to the packing-house, and ask for certificate of inspection. The representative of the Bureau of Animal Industry will furnish this certificate upon request of your commission man. With the proper co-operation all around, in a comparatively short time the entire map of the United States will be white, and the T. B. problem will become a mere routine matter of occasional checks to prevent reinfection.

Our Bureau of Animal Industry has an enviable record in its work of fighting disease. It has now shown that it can likewise compromise a difficult situation in a manner that gives full protection to all, at a minimum of trouble and expense.

COUNTRY BUYING TO BE PROBED

INTIMATIONS HAVE COME FROM WASHINGTON that the Secretary of Agriculture has at last given way to the insistent demand of certain organizations that something be done to curb the growing practice of direct buying—to the extent, at least, that he has promised an investigation of causes and effects of this method of disposing of live stock.

To such an inquiry, of course, no one can reasonably object, and we hope it will be thorough and conclusive. If, as claimed, the farmer is really robbing himself through what, on the face of it, looks like a saving, he is entitled to the information from a source whose disinterestedness he cannot question; and if, as likewise charged, there are secret packer manipulations involved, these should be brought to light. On this all will agree.

What THE PRODUCER has fought for in the past is simply freedom of the market. To tell a man that he does not know on which side his bread is buttered, and that, if he chooses to sell his hogs through other than the orthodox channels, he must be made to conform, smacks too much of principles that hitherto have not been popular in this country. Even in the guise of suggested "regulation," state and federal, the cloven hoof of compulsion has been too obvious to fool anybody.

The fate of prohibition should have taught us the lesson that the average individual will balk at dictation in what he regards as his purely private affairs. If we want to impose our own higher standards and sounder judgments upon him, and wish to save him from his benighted self, our only line of approach is through education, proving to him that he is making an ass of himself.

So we welcome the investigation—and let the chips fall where they may! When the smoke of argument and counter-argument has blown away, and things can be viewed in their true outline, we hope for the producer that he will have received a clear orientation as to where his true advantage lies, and that, in any case, nothing will be done to hamper his deliberate choice. For the packers, we trust that surmises of questionable maneuverings will be disproved. As for the commission men and stock-yard people, we cannot refrain from suggesting that the best way to build up receipts at central markets is to make those markets so attractive that people will want to go there. The stubborn fight which has been made by market interests against every effort to reduce yardage and commission charges, although live-stock prices are at ruinously low levels, beyond question has been one of the most important contributing factors to the large direct movement. Farmers may err in shipping their live stock direct; but, when the full story of the depression which started in 1929 is written, no greater error will be recorded than the failure of market agencies voluntarily to make a substantial reduction in their service charges, thus doing their bit to help the industry through the worst period it has ever encountered.

"I enjoy THE PRODUCER very much."—WILLIAM Y. FOWLER, JR., Llano, Tex.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

WHO MAKES THE PRICE?

PORTIS, KAN., December 20, 1933.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have just read an article in which it was stated that the corn-hog plan was self-supporting, as the processing tax on hogs and corn would bring in sufficient funds to pay the \$500,000,000 in bonuses, in addition to the expenses of administration, which might run to another \$500,000,000. In that case, for each \$2 taken off the hog price in the way of a processing tax the producer would receive \$1 as a bonus. Would that be a great help?

As I write, there is a processing tax of \$1 per 100 pounds on live hogs, and the packers have taken off just \$2, three-fourths of which is directly due to the tax. With the price of corn set at 45 cents a bushel, and with hogs at 1 to 2½ cents a pound at country points, it is no wonder that the hog-producer feels like quitting and going to work for the CWA.

Some of the men responsible for this and other absurdities propose to build big dams across our rivers for flood control, when any little child can see that the best method of controlling floods would be to make ponds in the regions where the floods originate. With a system of pond-building in force throughout the grazing districts to hold the water back on the land on which it falls, a dependable water supply would be secured, and the whole country would be better off. Besides, in this way the flood menace along the big rivers would be averted by keeping the water back in the ponds. These ponds could be built for one-tenth of the money that the dam projects would cost, and furnish employment to more men.

C. H. LATTIN.

THAT "GIVE-A-CALF" PLAN

LATEST REPORTS FROM ARIZONA ARE TO THE effect that the plan advanced by the Yavapai County Cattle Growers' Association for financing the American National Live Stock Association has "gone over big." The calves—most of them—have been delivered and sold, netting for the American National close to the total of \$1,000 which the promoters of the plan had set as their goal. In the *Weekly Market Report and News Letter* of December 27, 1933, Mrs. J. M. Keith, secretary of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, writes as follows about the sale:

"The calves were shipped to Phoenix and unloaded in the pens of Babbitt-Cowden to be sold. They were a fine bunch, the steer calves averaging 326 pounds and the heifers 294 pounds. After being graded for quality and size, and priced on a per-pound basis by Tom King, the entire lot of seventy-nine calves averaged \$11.17, netting for the American National, after necessary expenses of shipping were paid, a little more than \$10 per head. At

present the Yavapai calf fund is \$908.95, and, as there are a few more calves to come, we feel confident that, by the time the Yavapai delegates leave for the National convention at Albuquerque, the total will easily reach their \$1,000 goal, or a total of 100 calves. This will be the Yavapai County's special contribution to the National to improve the beef-cattle industry in the West. If every county in every western state would do as well, Washington, D. C., would know all about the cow business, and would be glad to give the cattlemen whatever they needed."

For this handsome contribution—doubly appreciated because so wholly unexpected—the American National wishes to express its sincere thanks. It will be a great help in carrying on its work. To each one who participated, both for his individual share and for the wonderful spirit of co-operation shown on all sides in carrying out the plan, we are genuinely grateful.

* * *

In a letter to the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, quoted in the *Market Report*, Henry G. Boice makes this comment:

"I am pleased to see that a group of Arizona cattlemen have enough appreciation of the work of the American National Live Stock Association, and enough initiative, to work out a new plan for raising money to carry on the work of the National. The idea of giving a calf, which the Yavapai County cattlemen have proposed, is novel and should be productive of considerable income, which is greatly needed to maintain the representation which the association is providing for the live-stock industry in Washington during these very uncertain times. From my acquaintance with the Yavapai County cattlemen, I feel sure that they will carry the idea into execution and set an example, not only for other communities in our state, but for all western cattle-raising states as well.

"Those of us who have carried the responsibilities of the American National are doubly appreciative of the fine effort which the Yavapai County cattlemen are making by giving their calves, and of the tremendous financial assistance which their program is sure to render.

"I am confident that those who contribute to the expense of the American National can feel assured that the money will be spent to the best advantage in securing those things which are beneficial to the live-stock industry. . . .

"I think the Yavapai County cattlemen should be congratulated on the sincerity of their purpose and the resourcefulness which has caused them to adopt this new program. I hope their example will be followed by every community in our state, and by every state which the American National Live Stock Association is serving."

* * *

That the idea is spreading is evidenced by the action taken by another Arizona organization, the Gila County Cattle Growers' Association, at a meeting of its Board of Directors in Globe on December 16. Here it was decided to support the plan, and twenty calves were pledged by those present, with a prospect of getting thirty or forty more. The Gila Meat Company promised to buy all the calves.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

GROSS FARM INCOME FROM 1933 PRODUCTION will be about \$6,100,000,000, estimates Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace in his annual report to the President. Payments to farmers for restrictions in agricultural production will increase the total to about \$6,400,000,000, as compared with \$5,143,000,000 received in 1932. Farm-commodity prices from mid-March to mid-October rose 47 per cent. The gain in the exchange value of farm products, however, was only 22 per cent, because prices paid by farmers advanced considerably.

This improvement the secretary attributes mainly to national policy and action. It cannot be maintained, he says, unless farmers, under federal guidance, continue to plan their production. Agriculture entered the year with tremendous surpluses, and with a curtailed market at home and abroad. The necessity of beginning farm recovery with production adjustments, he declares, was overwhelming. Sections of the report devoted to various commodities tell what the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has accomplished.

The nation faces a choice between two lines of policy, Mr. Wallace asserts: Either it must modify its tariff policy so as to permit a larger quantity and value of imports to enter the country, or it must accept a considerable and permanent loss of its foreign markets. Either we must modify our tariff policy, and perhaps also our policy with regard to international debts and foreign lending, or we must put our internal economy on substantially a nationalist basis. It will probably be necessary in any event, he thinks, to count on some permanent reduction in the export demand for agricultural products. How large the necessary reduction will be depends greatly on our tariff policy. Emergency adjustments of farm production to the present demand do not mean renouncing foreign trade. Recognition of agriculture's need for foreign trade is quite consistent with a determination not to offer our foreign customers vastly more than they can possibly take.

Discussing the relationship of NRA policies to agricultural recovery, Secretary Wallace notes that industrial codes had results that disappointed farmers at first.

"The raising of wages and the shortening of hours in industrial employment," he says, "delay correction of the disparity between farm and non-farm prices; but this should be only temporary. Industries that have increased their costs through higher wages and shorter hours will soon be adjusted to the new level of costs. The prices of their goods will be adjusted to it similarly, and should advance less rapidly or become stabilized. Agricultural prices, on the other hand, should continue to advance with adjustments in farm production and increases in consumer buying power."

The secretary declares, however, that the whole advance in non-agricultural prices cannot be attributed to the intended

and legitimate influence of industrial codes under the National Recovery Act.

"There has been some tendency for manufacturers and business groups to pyramid increased costs in consumers' prices. Many commodities are selling today at prices much higher than would be necessary to meet the expense involved in raising wages and shortening hours. It is an essential part of the national recovery program that consumer buying power shall increase more than consumers' prices. Agriculture will suffer in proportion as this fails to come about. Recovery requires a balanced and approximately simultaneous gain in wage payments, consumer buying power, and farm prices."

After discussing the necessity of a long-time land program to replace emergency production control, the secretary emphasizes the need of matching progress in production-science with progress in distribution-science. Efforts to balance production with demand and to prevent useless farm expansion suggest to many farmers, the report states, that agriculture has a quarrel with science; for science increases the farmers' productivity, and thus tends to increase the burden of the surplus. The quarrel is not with science, Mr. Wallace maintains, but only with the incompleteness of its victories so far. Gains in technical efficiency, if not supported by scientific economic adjustments, cause trouble. However, the remedy is not to put a brake on science, but to open new channels into which economic energy may profitably flow.

"It is essentially a problem of distribution," the report says. "We have surpluses, in industry as well as in agriculture, largely because the laws that govern the distribution of income cause a polarization of wealth and poverty—a piling-up of purchasing power at one end of the social scale. In consequence, a majority of the people spend all their money before they have satisfied their wants, while a minority satisfy their wants long before they have spent their money. There results an unemployed block of purchasing power which tends to be transformed into capital and to go back into production instead of entering the market for consumable goods. This makes the surplus situation worse."

"Potentially, the purchasing power existing at any time equals the supply of goods; but it does not necessarily enter the market for those goods. To make it do so, it must be joined to need or desire. When purchasing power gravitates away from need or desire, it lies idle or runs to waste in speculation and bad investment. How much more socially intelligent it would be to redistribute purchasing power in such a way as to put it effectively to work! Unemployed purchasing power means unemployed labor, and unemployed labor means human want in the midst of plenty. This is the most challenging paradox of modern times."

The report recounts action taken, up to the middle of October, by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to regulate the production of cotton, wheat, tobacco, and corn and hogs. It tells of the efforts made to regulate the dairy industry through marketing agreements, and to develop fruit and vegetable agreements. It condemns uncontrolled speculation, particularly in grain and cotton, as incompatible with

efforts to control production. The report contains sections on farm income from 1933 production, and on the relation between the government's monetary policy and the agricultural situation.

RAMIFIED ACTIVITIES OF BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

INVESTIGATIONS OF FEED COSTS CONDUCTED BY the Bureau of Animal Industry have demonstrated the importance of pasturage in the feeding of live stock, we are told in the report of Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of that bureau, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1933. Pasture feeding, in general, was found to be more economical and to give greater returns than feeding on harvested crops. Meat produced entirely from pasturage, or on a combination of grass and grain, was of desirable quality—a fact, it is pointed out, which seems to justify a more general use of grass in the national program of live-stock production.

Another feeding investigation showed that hogs fed restricted rations containing corn or wheat not only made more efficient use of the feed than hogs fed all they would eat, but yielded a higher proportion of lean cuts, as palatable as those from full-fed hogs.

In studies of wool and other animal fibers, the bureau's investigators developed a simplified method of determining the clean-wool content and the density of fleeces. The method is applicable to farm conditions, and may be used in increasing the efficiency of breeding flocks.

Studies of the Columbia sheep—a type developed at the bureau's experiment station at Dubois, Idaho—have shown that these sheep produce heavier lambs and fleeces than any of the breeds commonly raised in range areas.

In co-operation with the states, veterinarians of the Bureau of Animal Industry during the year applied the tuberculin test to more than 13,000,000 cattle. Three additional states were designated as modified accredited areas, bringing the total number of states where bovine tuberculosis has been practically eradicated up to eleven. (This number since the close of the fiscal year has been increased to thirteen.) The tuberculosis-eradication program has been extended to swine and poultry.

Investigations concerning infectious abortion provided additional evidence that the causal micro-organism may enter the body of cattle through the skin, especially if this is abraded. Vaccination of susceptible animals during calfhood gives promise of greatly increasing their resistance to the disease.

The discovery was made that the common horse-bot reaches the stomach of the horse in from twenty-one to twenty-eight days after the larvæ are taken into the mouth. In view of this new information, horses may be treated successfully about a month after the disappearance of the adult botflies in the fall.

REPORT OF FOREST SERVICE

EMERGENCY WORK BY THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION Corps under the President's forest-protection plan, together with improvements being accomplished under the public-works program and provisions made for accelerated federal-land acquisition, occupies much space in the annual report of the Forest Service, covering the year from July 1, 1932, to June 30, 1933. Most of the work undertaken by the CCC had long been planned by federal and state forestry agencies, we are told. The first step toward getting it under

way was for the Forest Service to select thousands of these previously planned projects and to select suitable camp locations. There was also the task of procuring and distributing the necessary tools, machines, trucks, and other equipment, and the recruiting of suitable supervisors. During the first six months nearly 600 CCC camps were located on the national forests. The Forest Service was also called upon to supervise and assist state authorities in the conduct of all work being done from 660 camps established on state and private land.

The net area of the national forests at the close of the fiscal year was 162,009,145 acres—an increase of 648,454 acres during the year. The 1933 fire record is reported as one of the best in national-forest history. In the extension of fire protection to state and private lands, the Forest Service co-operated with thirty-eight states under the Clarke-McNary Act. Approximately 223,000,000 acres of state and private forest, or potential forest, lands were reported under some form of organized protection from fire. The acreage protected was 55 per cent of the total classed as needing protection.

National-forest receipts for the fiscal year were \$2,626,049, which is somewhat more than those of the previous year. Of this, road and school funds amounting to \$679,315, or 25 per cent of the total, were allocated to states in which the national forests are located. This 25 per cent apportionment is paid annually in lieu of taxes on national-forest lands. An additional fund representing 10 per cent was made available to the Forest Service for the construction of local roads and trails within the forest boundaries. Distribution of these two funds among thirteen western states has been as follows:

| State | 25 Per Cent Fund | 10 Per Cent Fund |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Arizona | \$ 66,674.98 | \$26,669.99 |
| California | 110,579.69 | 44,231.88 |
| Colorado | 85,744.13 | 34,297.66 |
| Idaho | 65,104.60 | 26,041.84 |
| Montana | 40,771.86 | 16,308.75 |
| Nebraska | 2,409.41 | 963.76 |
| Nevada | 16,242.43 | 6,496.97 |
| New Mexico | 23,758.22 | 9,503.29 |
| Oklahoma | 1,160.01 | 464.00 |
| Oregon | 54,376.16 | 21,750.46 |
| Utah | 44,624.51 | 17,849.81 |
| Washington | 61,055.74 | 24,422.30 |
| Wyoming | 41,272.02 | 16,508.81 |

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WHAT THE CCC BOYS DID

NOTABLE WORK WAS DONE IN FOREST PRESERVATION and improvement during the past season by the 300,000 men enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps, according to a report submitted to the President by Robert Fechner, director of the corps, covering the period up to the end of September. As a result, millions of acres of forest and adjoining lands have been benefited.

A record of the activities of this peace-time army shows that 12,671 miles of trails and 4,229 bridges were built, 68,000 erosion dams were constructed, and 400,000 man-days were spent fighting forest fires. Trees were planted on 25,000 acres, and planting operations were begun on 50,000 acres more. Disease-control work was completed on 1,675,000 acres, rodent-control work on 3,566,018 acres, insect-pest control work on 800,153 acres, and poisonous-plant control work on 47,459 acres.

The bulk of this work was done in July, August, and September, under supervision of the forestry experts of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and the states where the camps were located. In addition, flood-control work was done by 5,600 veterans under direction of the chief engineers of the War Department.

USE OF SUBMARGINAL LAND

EXPERIMENTS IN LAND USE COVERING APPROXIMATELY 2,000,000 acres, in ten different regions, have been authorized. The experiments are to be conducted jointly by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Department of the Interior, and will deal with prevention of soil erosion and the removal from cultivation of marginal and submarginal lands, and their return to the public domain. The initial outlay is expected to be from \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000, to be contributed by the recovery funds.

Tentative western locations for erosion-prevention projects, as announced, are: central Texas, near Temple; Palouse section, near Pullman, Washington; Oklahoma Red Plains, near Stillwater; Kansas, near Mankato in Jewell County; and a large tract of land in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah, known as the Navajo Project.

PUTTING CITY UNEMPLOYED ON LAND

TWENTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN allotted under the NRA to remove families from the ranks of the unemployed in industrial centers and place them on small farms to provide their own subsistence. An experimental area of 1,200 acres near the coal-fields of West Virginia has been secured, which is being divided into plots of three to six acres each. A factory building is being erected, where the new settlers may work part time, when they are not busy producing food for their own needs.

M. L. Wilson, formerly chief of the Wheat Production Division of the AAA, is in charge of the project.

VAST SUMS TO BE SPENT IN CROP-REDUCTION PROGRAM

CASH BENEFIT PAYMENTS OF MORE THAN \$800,000,000 will be due farmers co-operating in the administration's agricultural adjustment program, according to a recent government release. This sum is in addition to

the increased income derived from higher commodity prices, from marketing agreements fixing minimum prices for producers, and from government loans and advances. Under the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, commitments have been made to put purchasing power amounting to more than \$1,250,000,000 into the hands of agriculture by the end of February, 1935. Of this sum, over \$162,000,000 had been distributed by the middle of December, 1933.

In compensation for agreeing to reduce the current year's area sown to wheat by more than 8,000,000 acres, wheat-farmers will receive some \$70,000,000 before February, 1934, and another \$102,000,000 next spring.

Corn- and hog-growers, in return for reducing the 1934 corn acreage by 20 per cent and hogs for market by 25 per cent, will receive—provided all sign the agreement—a total not exceeding \$350,000,000. Commitments of \$150,000,000 for loans to corn-producers, at 45 cents a bushel, have been made.

Benefit payments to cotton-farmers for reducing their 1933 acreage by 10,399,351 acres, and production by over 4,000,000 bales, totaled about \$111,000,000. Advances on options offered as benefits will aggregate \$48,000,000 more. Commodity loans to farmers may reach \$250,000,000. Benefit payments for the 1934 program of a 15,000,000 acreage reduction are estimated at \$165,000,000.

Payments to tobacco-growers for cutting down their 1934 acreage will be between \$30,000,000 and \$40,000,000.

Up to the middle of December the government had spent \$33,000,000 in buying pigs and sows, and \$11,000,000 to take butter off a glutted market.

For seventeen western states, estimated acres removed from production of wheat, and total benefit payments to be made to wheat-farmers co-operating in the reduction program, were as below:

| State | Acres Removed | Total Payments |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Arizona | 841 | \$ 21,000 |
| California | 69,054 | 1,086,000 |
| Colorado | 234,600 | 2,318,000 |
| Idaho | 157,020 | 3,464,000 |
| Kansas | 1,886,073 | 24,285,000 |
| Montana | 784,000 | 6,463,000 |
| Nebraska | 410,400 | 6,426,000 |
| Nevada | 1,200 | 29,000 |
| New Mexico | 52,590 | 407,000 |
| North Dakota | 1,579,100 | 14,303,000 |
| Oklahoma | 349,570 | 6,891,000 |
| Oregon | 126,800 | 2,777,000 |
| South Dakota | 541,600 | 5,229,000 |
| Texas | 550,800 | 5,500,000 |
| Utah | 38,524 | 613,000 |
| Washington | 292,350 | 5,001,000 |
| Wyoming | 36,000 | 388,000 |

Possible benefit payments for adjustment of corn and hog production for the same states are as follows:

| State | Corn Benefits | Hog Benefits |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Arizona | \$ 37,350 | \$ 90,000 |
| California | 189,000 | 2,426,250 |
| Colorado | 802,000 | 2,227,500 |
| Idaho | 129,150 | 1,076,250 |
| Kansas | 8,248,000 | 11,917,500 |
| Montana | 159,000 | 641,250 |
| Nebraska | 14,608,000 | 22,466,250 |
| Nevada | 2,880 | 37,500 |
| New Mexico | 181,000 | 150,000 |
| North Dakota | 1,616,000 | 2,748,750 |
| Oklahoma | 3,886,000 | 2,392,500 |
| Oregon | 123,000 | 720,000 |
| South Dakota | 4,131,000 | 7,440,000 |
| Texas | 5,948,000 | 2,013,750 |
| Utah | 33,210 | 157,500 |
| Washington | 79,560 | 576,250 |
| Wyoming | 123,000 | 258,750 |

TWO HUNDRED MILLIONS FOR BEEF AND DAIRY INDUSTRIES

A CONFERENCE OF LEADERS OF FARM ORGANIZATIONS was called by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace for December 22, to consider administrative policies and possible amendments to the Agricultural Adjustment Act. Because of the crisis in the dairy industry and continued low prices for beef cattle, the subject-matter of the conference was broadened to comprise the acute problems of these two industries. A proposal to ask Congress to establish a fund of \$200,000,000 to aid in financing production-adjustment programs was advanced for discussion. Anticipating this, the following telegram was sent by Mr. Wallace to the Senate and House Committees on Agriculture, other members of Congress, and governors of the leading dairy and cattle-producing states:

"Acute dairy and beef price situation requires immediate steps to cover the period which must necessarily elapse until consumer ability to buy domestic dairy and beef products is restored. Farm leaders are proposing congressional action to establish at earliest possible moment \$200,000,000 fund to be used to supplement receipts from processing taxes in the financing of important programs for production adjustment for dairying and beef industries. Advance benefit payments to producers would help tide them over present period in which prices of things they buy are increased, while their own income is impaired due to ruinous prices for the products they have to sell. I would appreciate a telegram from you expressing your opinion of the proposal."

A majority of the messages received in reply to this telegram indicated full support of the establishment of such a fund. Accordingly, the secretary has announced that an amendment will be sought at the present session of Congress, making beef one of the basic agricultural commodities on which a processing tax may be levied, and an appropriation of the sum of \$200,000,000 will be requested.

GOVERNMENT BUYING HOGS

BEGINNING JANUARY 3, THE FEDERAL SURPLUS Relief Corporation will be in the market for 234,600 hogs, to be bought from the packers, processed by them, and distributed to the needy throughout the country. Market price, or higher, will be paid. At present quotations, an expenditure of more than \$3,500,000 would be involved. Buying will continue for at least three weeks.

Previously, the FSRC has purchased around 300,000 hogs from packers at \$6 per hundredweight, the packers paying the producers \$3.90. On this deal, according to Secretary Wallace, packers' profits approximated \$1,200,000, which accounts for the new departure in buying the hogs direct and awarding bids to packers on processing costs only.

PROCESSING TAX ON HOGS

AS IN THE CASE OF CORN, WHERE IT WAS DEEMED advisable to cut the processing tax from 28 to 5 cents a bushel until the end of the year, when it was to be raised to 20 cents, the increase in the tax on live hogs from \$1 to \$1.50 per hundredweight, scheduled to go into effect on January 1, has been found too great to be immediately absorbed without further depressing prices, and the figure will remain at \$1 at least until February 1. In putting off by a month the date when the \$1.50 tax shall be put into force, it was provided that the rate after March 1 shall be \$2.25, instead of \$2.

This modification of the original order was based upon the fact that, in the estimation of the Secretary of Agriculture, payment of the processing tax under the original schedule, with heavy marketings of hogs during January and February, would tend to result in the accumulation of surplus stocks, and consequent further price declines. During November federally inspected slaughter of hogs represented an increase of 20 per cent over the same month in 1932, and during December it was about the same as last year. The reduction in numbers from last summer's emergency marketing program, it was stated, will not become noticeable until some time after the first of the year.

WALLACE WARNS HOG-BUYERS NOT TO DEDUCT PROCESSING TAX

WARNINGS HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY SECRETARY Wallace to those "local hog-buyers, small processors, and others purchasing live hogs for commercial slaughter," who are reported to be penalizing farmers by deducting the whole or part of the amount of the processing tax from the price paid for the hogs. Such buyers, he declares, "are tending to frustrate the declared policy of the Agricultural Adjustment Act." By deliberately deducting the tax from bids based on the regular market quotations, they are escaping paying any tax at all, and are "taking advantage of the farmer to realize a larger profit than is represented by the usual differential in price between the local shipping point and the main terminal market." "There is absolutely no excuse for such a practice," says the secretary, "and farmers should refuse to sell to any buyer who makes, or proposes to make, any such deductions."

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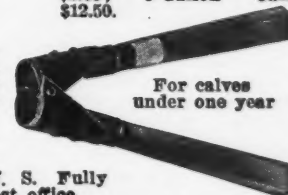
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For calves under one year

CANNED-BEEF BIDS REJECTED

OFFICIALS OF THE FEDERAL SURPLUS RELIEF Corporation early last month announced that all bids submitted by the packers for 25,000,000 pounds of canned beef for relief of the unemployed had been rejected as too high. No decision had been reached as to whether new bids would be requested. The proposed contract specified that no canned beef in stock would be eligible, but that bidders must buy live cattle for processing.

Sixteen meat-packing concerns submitted bids, ranging from 13.46 to 31.07 cents a pound.

FEDERAL LAND BANK AT WICHITA CHANGES HEADS

IN A GENERAL REORGANIZATION OF FARM CREDIT agencies at Wichita, Kansas, last month, the services of John Fields as president of the Federal Land Bank in the Ninth District came to an end. As reasons for the dismissal, William I. Myers, governor of the Farm Credit Administration, stated that the Wichita bank "was not lending enough money, and was not lending it fast enough." Mr. Fields had been president of the bank since April, 1929, and for three years prior to that date had been vice-president. The new president will be chosen by the Farm Credit Administration, and confirmed by the directors of the district on January 10.

MORGENTHAU SUCCEEDS WOODIN

ON JANUARY 1, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT FINALLY accepted the resignation of William H. Woodin as Secretary of the Treasury, which had been in his hands since last summer. Mr. Woodin is in Arizona, suffering from a stubborn throat ailment, which has incapacitated him for work.

His successor is Henry Morgenthau, Jr., formerly Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, and lately Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

PEEK TO HEAD TRADE BODY

THE FIRST BREAK IN THE RANKS OF THE ADMINISTRATION at Washington of more direct concern to agriculture occurred last month, when George N. Peek, Administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, resigned. Rumors of a disagreement as to policies with Secretary Wallace and his second in command, Assistant Secretary Tugwell, had been rife for some time, and the divergence, it is reported, was taken to the President for adjustment.

An announcement was thereafter given out from the

White House to the effect that Mr. Peek had now completed the organization work in which he had been engaged, and henceforth could devote himself to the development of the foreign trade of the United States and the co-ordination of all activities pertaining to export markets for our surplus products, in which subjects he had long been interested. Consequently Mr. Peek was named special assistant to the President on trade policy and head of a Trade Committee which is expected to become a permanent agency of the government.

To succeed Mr. Peek as Administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, Chester C. Davis, Director of the Production Division, has been named.

DO COYOTES PREY ON CALVES?

DIVERGENCE OF OPINION PREVAILS AMONG stockmen as to the dietary habits of our friend, the coyote, some asserting that this predator does not attack calves, and others being equally positive that it does. In the hope of settling the dispute, THE PRODUCER asked the Denver Laboratory of Food Habits Research, which is a branch of the Bureau of Biological Survey, for such data on the subject as might have been unearthed by federal investigators. In response, we received a reprint of an article by Charles C. Sperry, who is in charge of the aromatic work of examining stomach contents at the laboratory. The article, entitled "Autumn Food Habits of Coyotes," appeared in the *Journal of Mammalogy* for August, 1933. It describes what was discovered in 3,042 stomachs collected in twelve western states during September, October, and November, 1931 and 1932.

Of these 3,042 stomachs, 1,019 were empty, and 570 contained debris only, leaving 1,453 on which to appraise the coyote's menu during the fall months. Percentages of food contents (by bulk) were as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Rabbits | 29 |
| Carrion | 29 |
| Rodents | 17 |
| Sheep and goats..... | 14 |
| Birds | 3 |
| Deer | 2 |
| Skunks and badgers..... | 2 |
| Insects | 1 |
| Vegetable | 3 |
| | 100 |

The term "carrion," it is explained, includes horse, burro, cow, coyote, and all known "station" material—that is, portions of carcasses used as decoys in connection with traps and poison. "Some of the 'cow' material," we read, "may have been calf, but from the remaining fragmentary remains in the stomachs they cannot be recognized as having come from young animals." Elsewhere it is stated: "Calf, colt, or hog remains are rarely found in the stomachs of coyotes, having been recorded but 19 times in the total of 1,453."

This leaves the matter pretty much up in the air. That the coyote *rarely* attacks calves may be taken to have been proved. Evidence that it *never* does so, on the basis of the above data, seems less conclusive. Isn't it reasonable to suppose that a half-famished predator, coming upon a small or weak calf that has strayed away from the direct protection of its mother, will not hesitate to attack?

We should like to know what the observations of our readers have been on this point.

"THE PRODUCER is a great help to keep posted on what is going on in the cattle industry."—FELIX MUNDELL, Bartlett, Colo.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
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| PURE-BRED HEREFORD CATTLE | |
| Perry Park Ranch | |
| Larkspur, Colorado | R. F. Lamont, Jr., Owner |

OUR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

SALE-IN-TRANSIT CASE

IN A DECISION HANDED DOWN ON DECEMBER 29, the Interstate Commerce Commission rendered its verdict in the hotly contested sale-in-transit case. The privilege of sorting live stock, with change of ownership, and forwarding it at what remains of the through rate, now in force at Denver, Ogden, and Salt Lake City, was left undisturbed as not prejudicial. If the so-called river markets, complainants in the case, wish a similar favor extended to them, the railroads are free to grant it, it was ruled. The carriers, however, were told that they must establish a uniform system, ceasing to maintain less favorable transit arrangements at the big centers than at the country marketing points, which are largely controlled by themselves.

With respect to Denver, the commission held that the privilege of sorting was necessary there, because, due to its location at the threshold of the range country, that city received numerous shipments of mixed live stock, which is not the case at other markets. Consequently, cancellation of the privilege would hurt Denver far more than it would benefit the mid-western markets. While the bulk of the traffic which goes to Denver goes there because of the liberal transit arrangements, that going to the mid-western markets is shipped regardless and in spite of the absence of such arrangements.

The complaint alleging that freight rates on live stock shipped from western points to Wichita, Kansas, for slaughter were unreasonable was dismissed. Rates on stock moving through the Chicago stock-yards were held to be neither unreasonable nor discriminatory.

Two commissioners—Brainard and Lee—dissented from the majority opinion. While they did not propose to take the privilege away from the three western markets, they wished to have it extended to the Missouri River points.

WESTERN PASSENGER RATES AGAIN LOWERED

ENCOURAGED BY THE RESPONSE TO THE REDUCTION in basic fares that went into effect on December 1, as reported in last month's PRODUCER, western and south-western railroads have decided to lower round-trip passenger coach rates another 10 per cent, beginning January 2, 1934, according to an announcement issued by the Transcontinental-Western Passenger Association. This further cut will make the rate 1.8 cents per mile each way, with a ten-day return limit.

EMERGENCY DROUGHT RATES

ON PAGE 27 OF OUR DECEMBER ISSUE, UNDER the above headline, in summarizing the action taken by various western railroads on the application for emergency

rates on live stock and feed in the territory stricken by drought last summer, the Union Pacific, owing to incomplete information, was unintentionally omitted from the list of carriers granting concessions.

As a matter of fact, the Union Pacific accorded exactly the same privileges as the Burlington and Colorado & Southern, named in the second paragraph of the item in question. The rates there mentioned applied to single-line movements only. Their extension to joint-line hauls was refused by the roads.

United States Wants Larger Share of British Pork Quota

In return for granting a substantial share of American whisky imports to English and Scotch distillers, the United States is demanding a larger quota of Great Britain's requirements of cured-pork products. This the British government is reported as being reluctant to grant, in view of previous commitments within the Empire and with Denmark.

During These Times

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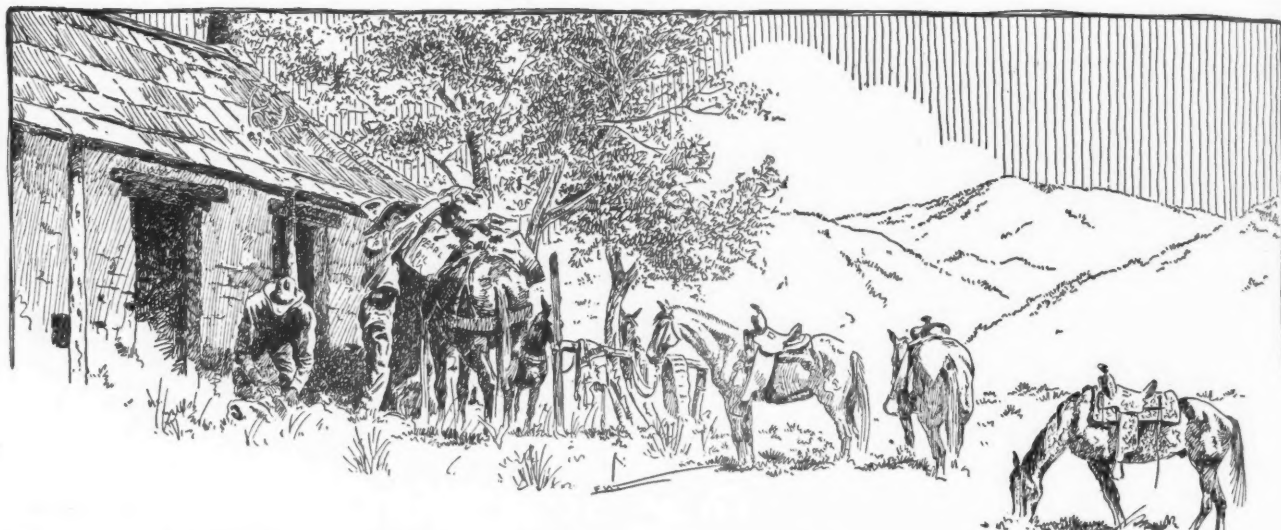
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Solid Aggressin (Cutter) produces the same dependable protection as Cutter's Liquid Aggressin from which it is made. It represents a full five c. c. dose and is preferred by many cattlemen because of its convenience, and the fact that there is no loss through breakage or spillage.

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THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN DECEMBER

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., January 1, 1934.

TWO CROPS OF CATTLE—THE RESIDUE OF THE long-feds and the advance guard of the short-feds—came into keen competition as a logical sequence of the corn-loan program. Always the short-fed delegation had an advantage in the evaluation debate. "Something low in price and light in weight" was the buying slogan. Short-fed and warmed-up steers weighing 700 to 1,100 pounds enjoyed a \$4.75 to \$5.75 market, while heavy bullocks, on corn a year or more, had to take \$4.25 to \$5.25, extreme weights selling below \$4. One spurt during the week before Christmas advanced heavy cattle 75 cents to \$1 per cwt., but this was accomplished on a temporary short supply, the velvet disappearing when the country resumed loading the following week.

Weight Decisive Price Factor

Never before has weight been so influential a factor in price-making. A handful of steer and heifer specialties in the feather-weight class sold in the \$6.25 to \$7 range, baby heifers selling up to \$7; but this phase of the trade centered on weights from 900 pounds down. Low-cost light cattle were in equal favor, slicked-up little steers weighing 800 pounds down realizing \$4 to \$4.75. The spread between good yearlings at \$5.75 to \$6.25 and warmed-up light steers at \$4.75 to \$5.50 has been unreasonably out of line, even the ridiculed "yellow-hammer" getting action, while finished 1,500- to 1,800-pound bullocks could not get a bid. Killers actually objected to long yearlings, on the ground that they were too fat.

Heavy Steers in Interminable Procession

Usually the aftermath of the International car-lot show is scarcity of finished steers and a raft of low-dressing cattle, but on this occasion each session of the market was freighted with long-feds up to the end of the year. It was the legacy of cheap corn early in 1933, complicated by retention of fat cattle that should have gone to the butcher months before. Each week the trade hugged the illusion that the crop of old cattle was in; and still they came, always in strong force, in response to spasmodic upturns of 25 to 50 cents per cwt. Despite the burdensome influence of an excess supply of heavy cattle, anything under 1,100 pounds always had a firm undertone, and the lower cattle could be priced, the greater was the facility with which they could be sent over the scales.

Light Cattle Marketed Prematurely

Advancing corn arbitrarily by loaning 45 cents in the crib had the logical effect of putting cattle on the road. In some feeding sections so much corn was sealed on government loans that feeders faced necessity for paying 45 to 50 cents to replenish their bunkers. As gains ran from 6 to 8 pounds to the bushel of corn, carrying cattle was equivalent to throwing money to the little birds. The mere suggestion of a processing tax on beef, in the light of what had previously happened in the hog market, caused feeders to throw fits, order cars, and evade possible trouble. But for prema-

ture marketing of light cattle, December slaughter would have been substantially reduced, owners of old croppers would have had an opportunity to clean up, and selling conditions would have been ameliorated.

Heifers Drop Sharply

A crash of 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. occurred in heifers at mid-December. They had been selling relatively high, and, between an effort to grab good money and an impulse to cut out an increasing feed-bill, owners broke the market on themselves, thousands of short-fed heifers selling at \$4 to \$5 per cwt., although feeders met the emergency by reducing supply, whereupon partial recovery was effected. The butcher-cow market held on a \$2.25 to \$3 basis for the bulk, canners and cutters selling mainly at \$1.50 to \$2, although 25 cents was put on these prices during the last week of December, when a blizzard reduced supply. Discarded dairy cows are barely paying their way to market, net proceeds of sales of canner cows not infrequently being absurd, for which continued imports of South American canned meats are responsible.

Stocker Trade Sags

Between a semi-demoralized fat-cattle trade, the rise in corn, and Washington intimation of a processing tax on beef, the stocker market curled up during the latter half of December. Possibly weather conditions affected cattle replacement, but, faced with uncertainty as to what his feed-bill would be, the average feeder concluded to exercise patience. Common stockers were taken out at \$2 to \$2.25 per cwt.; useful cattle cost \$3 to \$3.50. Certain sections of the Corn Belt—notably Indiana and Illinois, where the 1933 crop was a partial failure—went out of the cattle game entirely.

Hogs in Moderate Advance

During the major part of December, average cost of hogs at Chicago flirted with the \$3.25 mark, alternately dropping under or rising slightly over. Without the govern-

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ment purchasing prop, prices would have been considerably lower. On the other hand, semi-demoralization during the early part of the month was due to liquidation, in anticipation of an increase in the processing tax to \$1.50 on January 1. When Washington announced that a 50-cent increase had been postponed until February 1, supply was reduced, and the market picked up, advancing to a \$3.35 to \$3.45 basis for good hogs, against \$3.15 to \$3.25 at the low time. Even an invalid lard market picked up, despite heavy stocks and continuous imports of foreign edible fats, the tonnage of which is not generally understood. During the three-month period July to October these imports aggregated 279,764,000 pounds, against 152,510,000 pounds in 1932, every pound of which entered into competition with domestic product. The four-year average of these importations, 1930 to 1933, was 652,572,000 pounds; during the first ten months of 1933 the poundage was 577,385,000, against 608,906,000 in 1932. What effect this competition exerts on domestic edible fats needs no demonstration. The bulk of the stuff comes from the Philippines and enters duty-free—a concession to the "Little Brown Brother" at the expense of Corn Belt hog-growers.

Trading Pork for Wine

Much ado is made about expanding exports of lard, which is mere prattle when imports of competing fats are considered. Some lard went to Europe during December on trades for liquor allotments, although France met that problem by raising its duty on lard after a huge wine allotment had been secured. Similarly, France made a deal with Washington to increase its imports of American hams 100 per cent, in consideration of a four-fold increase in its wine allocation by the United States. Investigation showed that during the past year France had not taken a single pound of Amer-

ican ham. Huge import allotments of wine to European countries that persistently discriminate against American hog product, both by excessive tariffs, allotments, and even exclusion, appear injudicious, especially as there is an abundant supply of domestic liquors, both spirituous and vinous. California is a heavy purchaser of hogs west of the Missouri River, and should be given a monopoly of the domestic wine market.

Corn-Loan Policy Results in Dumping of Underweights

As a result of the corn-loan policy, the hog market has been a veritable dump for underweights of 100 to 140 pounds, which have sold at sharp discounts—feather-weights as low as \$2 per cwt. Last fall, when the government bought relief meat, that purchase was restricted to 80- to 100-pound pigs; the new buying policy calls for weights of 170 to 220 pounds, making a specialty market for good hogs in this range. A more consistent policy would have been absorbing 85- to 130-pound pigs, thereby giving growers in short corn districts an outlet at prices 50 cents to \$1 per cwt. higher than the regular market afforded. National stocks of meat are still burdensome, and should the prospect of a \$1.50 processing tax in February, followed by \$2.25 in March, prompt early liquidation of the new crop during the intervening sixty days, the accumulation will increase. Liquidation at deficient weight was indicated late in December, when 230- to 280-pound hogs moved up close to a parity with 170- to 220-pound porkers, despite government buying of the latter.

Lambs Reach an \$8 Top

Lamb trade was equal to a spectacular performance late in December, when prices advanced 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. on a series of short runs, and in response to keen competition

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It is the only market where each of the nationally known packers owns and operates its own plant. Besides these, there are ten other packers—and many order buyers.

It is the world's largest stocker and feeder market. Feeders in twenty-seven states bought feeder classes in Kansas City in November.

Demand Makes the Price—

Largest Demand Is in Kansas City

between eastern and local killers. On the final market of 1933, the top at Chicago was \$8, the bulk of the crop selling in a range of \$7.65 to \$7.85, compared with a \$6 top and a \$5.50 to \$5.75 bulk a year ago. The moment the eastern crop of mature lambs ran out, accumulating shipping orders at Chicago, prices soared. In a poker game between eastern and local buyers, honors were even, but the selling side always had the better of the argument, although price results necessitated a series of scrimmages, delaying a clearance until late in the session. Frequently eastern orders were not available during the morning hours, necessitating playing a waiting game. If shippers came to the rescue, prices were marked up 25 cents or more; but, with that buying element out, local talent was able to take off as much or more. On bulges, loading expanded at near-by feed-lots; breaks curtailed the next day's supply from that quarter. Lambs on feed in the Corn Belt on contracts were rigorously topped out and trucked expeditiously to the market, keeping both sides of the trade guessing as to the next day's supply, the official overnight estimate running wide of actual receipts. Wool was a prize package, as killers could pull it to advantage, and shorn stock was severely penalized. Sheep—mainly ewes—participated in the advance, selling at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cwt. Dressed trade, even during a period of excessive poultry supply, was always active, at a time when lamb usually feels this competition. Native lambs all but disappeared, concentrating competition on fed westerns. Half-fat lambs were grabbed by killers, who were frequently forced to buy for numbers. In that event, sorting was negligible, making a difference of 10 to 25 cents per cwt. in killers' cost. At a time when acres of fat cattle sold at \$4.50 to \$5.50 per cwt., and hogs at \$3.25 to \$3.35 per cwt., lambs were worth \$7.50 to \$7.85. Prolonged sessions of the lamb market elicit complaint, but only by these delays was it possible to mark prices up, killers bidding 20 to 50 cents below the level at which a trading basis was frequently reached late in the afternoon.

Feeders Enthusiastic over Outlook

Lambs did well during the fall and early winter, second-hand stock was not available to feeders, and the countryward movement was practically suspended, a few loads going to Michigan at \$5.85 to \$6.25 for shearing purposes. As lambs have paid well for their board, feeders had incentive to condition them, even the tail end of the native crop coming fat. End-of-the-year trade generated enthusiasm in feeding circles, and would have installed thousands of lambs in shearing-pens had they been available. A choppy market the rest of the winter, with a gradually advancing tendency, is inevitable. Weight has encountered, and will continue to encounter, discrimination, especially above the 95-pound line.

MARKET PROSPECTS

J. E. P.

FOLLOWING A YEAR OF ENORMOUS MEAT PRODUCTION, supply curtailment in 1934 is certain. The huge crop of beef made on cheap corn is practically at the exhaustion stage. Pig slaughter on government account last fall, together with current liquidation of light hogs, owing to the feed-bill, and a short winter crop of lambs, all carry suggestion of reduced production and possibly higher prices, although at the inception of the year both cattle and hogs are selling at levels that preclude all possibility of recovery of the feed-bill.

Meat production in 1933 was about 1,000,000,000 pounds heavier than in 1932, the result of cheap corn, easy cattle-purchase money, and a huge crop of hogs. Only in the case of lamb and mutton was reduction registered. Cattle slaugh-



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We are pleased to announce to the live stock interests of the West that on January 8, 1934, The Cudahy Packing Company assumes the ownership of the Denver meat packing plant operated for many years by the Blayne-Murphy Company and during the past several months by the Mayflower Packing Company.

Through this modern establishment—one of the most complete in the country—we will be pleased to cooperate with the western live stock fraternity in the service of the great consuming public of the Denver trade area. It will be our purpose to maintain here the high standards so long associated with the Cudahy name.

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ter under federal inspection in 1933 was about 775,000 head in excess of 1932; but this does not indicate increased tonnage, as the proportion of heavy steers was the largest on record.

Cattle

A more effective method of curtailing beef production than the 45-cent corn-loan policy of the government could not have been designed. As corn was sealed to secure government loans by millions of bushels daily, commercial feeders faced prohibitive gain cost, leaving them no alternative but to gamble on a rise in fat-cattle prices or cash to stop the feed-bill. As few heavy steers were taken on by feeders last fall, and current beef demand is almost exclusively for light weights, killers will run into new conditions the moment the last of the old crop of big steers goes to the butcher—a culmination that cannot be long deferred. When a large proportion of weekly receipts comprises light, warmed-up steers, a modicum of steers weighing 1,300 pounds up should command respect. Feeders of common cattle, who picked up easy money last winter on 10- to 25-cent corn, will not be able to repeat, and, as a large percentage of that kind was tucked away in feed-lots, there will be an ample supply during the next sixty days. What is probable is a wider spread between choice heavy and common short-fed cattle, as the trade can always use a few New York kosher and Boston cattle. Elsewhere heavy beef is a trade anachronism.

Disgusted with cattle-feeding, farmer-feeders are mortgaging their corn to the government, thus tying up and accumulating an incredible quantity of grain. Just how it will work out must be left to developments. For the moment the government corn policy is putting a serious crimp in stock-cattle replacement, as commercial feeders do not know just where they "are at." Free corn cannot be bought for less than 40 cents per bushel, and is held at 45 to 50 cents in some localities—a cost the cattle-feeder cannot stand. Those mortgaging corn are taking a gambling chance on a rise this side of next October, especially if the crop to be planted next spring encounters physical vicissitude. On the other hand, a bumper 1934 crop will insure a burdensome accumulation next winter. Possibly restricted cattle-feeding will work up fat-cattle prices sufficiently to reinstate cattle in feed-lots and resume beef-making. Temporarily the corn-pegging program is against the commercial cattle-grower west of the Missouri River, whose customer, the Corn Belt feeder, is in a maze of uncertainty. What the corn-loan policy is doing now is forcing liquidation of thousands of merely warmed-up steers and heifers to evade the new feed-bill. It will discourage holding steers to put on weight.

Washington advices indicate inception of a project to aid beef and dairy interests by curtailing production along much the same lines as the corn-hog policy evolved. A \$200,000,000 fund, presumably to pay benefits, is proposed. As applicable to Corn Belt feeding, such a plan would give

feeders bounties on reduced production, the effect of which would be curtailment of stocker-purchasing, kicking back on the western breeder. Cattle-feeding has been so unprofitable recently that thousands of feeders would promptly avail themselves of bounty payments, or what is popularly known as "easy money," the effect of which would be substantial reduction of beef production. Until details of the plan are formulated, speculation as to the outcome is futile. It will be another economic excursion on an uncharted sea. That fat cattle could stand a processing tax of even one cent per pound is doubtful, and, at least until beef supply dropped to a level with current demand, such a tax would be deducted from the price of live cattle, as it has been in the case of hogs.

Immediately ahead of the cattle market is a clean-up of the old crop of steers, concurrent with the reception of a mob of warmed-up light steers forced to the shambles by the corn-loan plan. If replacement continues at present low ebb, three months hence fat cattle will no longer be in plethoric supply, and prices may work higher. Even under present conditions, heavy steers can be marked up \$1 per cwt. in a few days, and such is the demand for light beef—especially the commoner grades—that the whole market is at the verge of an unlift.

Hogs

That the new hog crop will be marketed early is an open secret. The heavy movement of November and the first half of December was temporarily arrested on announcement of postponement of the processing-tax increase. Had the tax been raised to \$1.50 on January 1, December slaughter would have exceeded that of November, but word came from Washington at a critical moment. Hogs will be marketed freely during January to evade the February increase in the tax, and, as the impost goes to \$2.25 per cwt. on March 1, the February run will be heavy. However, the slump since last October, which has carried the general level of hog prices down \$2 per cwt., has probably discounted the maximum tax effective March 1. Incidentally, the tax has been a potent influence in crashing prices by stimulating liquidation. Government buying for relief meat purposes is spasmodic, and, while a price-stabilization influence, has a tendency to create a specialty market for one type of hogs.

Between processing tax and an artificial corn price, the winter crop of hogs is in a tough place. Growers will meet the emergency by letting hogs go to the butcher. At present prices, hogs are not paying over 30 cents for corn, although grain is eligible to a 45-cent loan, making profitable conversion impossible, unless hogs advance \$2 per cwt.—a price trend improbable while the processing tax is in full force and effect. This tax is intended to go into the pockets of those who make corn loans and agree to reduce acreage, less cost of administration; but the route to collection is long and devious.

Sheep

Lambs occupy an impregnable position. The winter crop is short, wool shows a tendency to work higher, and the fleece on a lamb is worth more each week as the season works along. Enthusiasts are confident of a \$9 lamb market, which is credible after the dollar advance in December; but other meats, also poultry, are relatively and actually cheap. Steer beef is wholesaling at \$5.50 to \$11 per cwt.; pork loins, at \$8.50 to \$10; while lambs are quoted at \$10 to \$13.50. Lamb may be immune to competition by other meats, but an out-of-line condition may develop, and consumers have a confirmed habit of switching. Meat, however, is now a by-product of the lamb, wool having assumed the price-domination role.

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LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES SHOWING RECEIPTS, shipments, and federally inspected slaughter of live stock at sixty-two markets for the month of November, 1933, compared with November, 1932, and for the eleven months ending November, 1933 and 1932:

RECEIPTS

| | November | | Eleven Months Ending November | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------|
| | 1933 | 1932 | 1933 | 1932 |
| Cattle* | 1,202,558 | 1,039,336 | 11,445,386 | 11,041,526 |
| Calves..... | 496,268 | 503,839 | 5,145,596 | 5,128,512 |
| Hogs..... | 3,207,163 | 2,775,156 | 37,044,966 | 31,905,389 |
| Sheep..... | 2,064,259 | 2,203,419 | 25,410,013 | 27,649,628 |

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

| | November | | Eleven Months Ending November | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------|
| | 1933 | 1932 | 1933 | 1932 |
| Cattle* | 560,020 | 536,882 | 4,549,382 | 4,751,361 |
| Calves..... | 171,412 | 198,350 | 1,600,151 | 1,601,962 |
| Hogs..... | 827,810 | 891,414 | 8,931,271 | 10,344,202 |
| Sheep..... | 1,031,395 | 1,144,984 | 12,456,267 | 13,464,514 |

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

| | November | | Eleven Months Ending November | |
|-------------|----------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| | 1933 | 1932 | 1933 | 1932 |
| Cattle* | 309,980 | 296,374 | 1,994,527 | 2,034,450 |
| Calves..... | 71,189 | 80,529 | 376,425 | 373,972 |
| Hogs..... | 27,648 | 25,593 | 369,560 | 300,945 |
| Sheep..... | 461,500 | 501,194 | 2,864,647 | 3,176,523 |

SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

| | November | | Eleven Months Ending November | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------|
| | 1933 | 1932 | 1933 | 1932 |
| Cattle* | 777,005 | 627,328 | 7,934,506 | 7,053,347 |
| Calves..... | 423,965 | 376,356 | 4,504,777 | 4,164,854 |
| Hogs..... | 4,501,047 | 3,778,127 | 42,695,854 | 40,661,374 |
| Sheep..... | 1,355,930 | 1,388,485 | 15,963,435 | 16,634,745 |

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF STORAGE HOLDINGS of frozen and cured meats, lard, poultry, creamery butter, and eggs on December 1, 1933, as compared with December 1, 1932, and average holdings on that date for the past five years (in pounds except as otherwise noted):

| Commodity | Dec. 1, 1933 | Dec. 1, 1932 | Five-Year Average |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Frozen beef..... | 50,603,000 | 27,843,000 | 47,736,000 |
| Cured beef* | 19,287,000 | 13,186,000 | 17,595,000 |
| Lamb and mutton..... | 2,880,000 | 2,904,000 | 4,037,000 |
| Frozen pork..... | 81,722,000 | 61,847,000 | 71,917,000 |
| Dry salt pork* | 81,186,000 | 50,874,000 | 70,830,000 |
| Pickled pork* | 361,855,000 | 291,177,000 | 289,965,000 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 53,612,000 | 34,912,000 | 58,906,000 |
| Total meats..... | 651,145,000 | 482,743,000 | 560,986,000 |
| Lard..... | 110,394,000 | 29,766,000 | 46,389,000 |
| Frozen poultry..... | 90,022,000 | 91,118,000 | 91,812,000 |
| Creamery butter..... | 138,090,000 | 37,207,000 | 70,019,000 |
| Eggs (case equivalent) | 4,721,000 | 3,032,000 | 5,087,000 |

HIDE TRADE ON SOLID BASIS

HIDE AND LEATHER TRADE APPEARS TO BE ON a reasonably solid footing. Shoe consumption is expanding, and, despite a heavy hide take-off, the packer market has been well maintained on an 8- to 9½-cent basis at Chicago. Packers are avoiding accumulation by "taking the market" right along, but refusing to part with their property at lower prices. Back in October the market showed pronounced weakness, but has since acquired a strong undertone, a similar current developing in leather trade, despite advances of 15 to 20 per cent in shoe prices. Evidently the public is replenishing its footgear, as production for 1933 will be about 14 per cent greater than in 1932.

Volume of current business is determined largely by quantity slaughterers, as country hides no longer exert a potent influence on values. It is both significant and encouraging that the market is keeping in a narrow groove, without characteristic wide fluctuations. Should liquidation of short-fed cattle continue, slaughter will be maintained during the first three months of 1934, followed by a period of relative scarcity that would make for higher prices. Tanners are anticipating this by accumulating leather stocks, although they are adamant in refusal to take on hides above 10 cents per pound.

Depreciated dollar exchange makes domestic prices lower than quotations on foreign markets.

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We specialize in the rugged, large-boned type of Herefords, rather than the smaller, fine-boned show type.

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Choicest blood-lines; outstanding individuals; raised under actual range conditions

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ALBERT, NEW MEXICO

WOOL VALUES ADVANCING

WOOL IS, AND WILL BE, GOOD PROPERTY. VALUES are gradually advancing, creating an excellent prospect for evaluation of the 1934 clip, on which trading is expected to begin early. December closing prices were the highest of the year, stocks were low, and the market was bolstered by extensive purchasing on government account. It is a buoyant trade, under the tonic influence of a free movement of fabrics to cutting centers and a well-sustained retail demand for clothing at stealthily advancing prices. Stocks at eastern concentration points are low, and mills are constantly in need of replenishment. Foreign markets are out of line with domestic prices and show an advancing tendency. At Boston, choice twelve-month Texas wool is selling at 84 to 86 cents, scoured; fine territory, at 81 to 83 cents; three-eighths, at 80 to 83 cents; and low quarter-blood territory, at 64 to 67 cents. Rising prices of low cross-bred wools in South America have stimulated buying of spot wools at Boston, where similar grades are available at prices below replacement costs in foreign markets. Wherever, on the face of this mundane sphere, wool is displayed, prices are crawling up. Strength abroad precludes all possibility of lower prices here, especially when short domestic supplies are considered. After January inventory-taking, a brisk market at still higher prices is certain.

Nothing further has been heard from Washington concerning the wool processing-tax proposition, the probability being that it has been abandoned, owing to stiff opposition manifested by both growers and millmen. Contention that wool and cotton are competing fibers is too absurd to receive credence, even in bureaucratic circles.

Although it is possible that heavy wool-buying for six months past was based on expectancy of higher prices, much of that wool has actually gone into fabrics. The factor of outstanding strength is foreign prices.

WHEN you are ready to buy your feed requirements, it will be to your advantage to figure with us. You can't afford to buy without getting prices on our

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Phone, wire, or write your orders to
QUANAH COTTON OIL COMPANY
Quanah, Texas
GOOD CAKE GOOD SERVICE

WANTED TO BUY—All kinds of empty Feed Bags; Oats, Brans, Cottonseed Meals, etc. Write us for prices and tags. **BRUCE BAG & BURLAP CO.**, 1613 Pearlstone Street, Dallas, Texas.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES SHOWING PRICES ON THE principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on January 2, 1934, compared with December 1, 1933, and January 2, 1933 (per 100 pounds):

| | Jan. 2, 1934 | Dec. 1, 1933 | Jan. 2, 1933 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| SLAUGHTER STEERS: | | | |
| Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.) | \$ 5.25- 6.50 | \$ 4.75- 6.25 | \$ 5.75- 7.00 |
| Good | 4.25- 6.00 | 3.75- 5.75 | 4.50- 6.00 |
| Choice (900 to 1,100 lbs.) | 6.25- 6.85 | 5.75- 6.25 | 6.25- 7.00 |
| Good | 5.00- 6.25 | 5.00- 5.75 | 5.00- 6.50 |
| Medium (800 lbs. up) | 3.75- 5.25 | 4.00- 5.00 | 3.75- 5.25 |
| FED YEARLING STEERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice | 5.50- 7.00 | 5.50- 6.50 | 5.25- 7.25 |
| HEIFERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice | 4.25- 6.50 | 4.50- 6.50 | 4.50- 6.25 |
| COWS: | | | |
| Good | 2.75- 3.75 | 3.00- 4.00 | 3.00- 4.25 |
| CALVES: | | | |
| Good to Choice | 3.00- 4.00 | 2.50- 3.50 | 3.50- 4.50 |
| FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS: | | | |
| Good to Choice | 3.75- 5.00 | 3.50- 4.50 | 4.00- 5.25 |
| Common to Medium | 2.50- 3.75 | 2.50- 3.50 | 2.75- 4.00 |
| HOGS: | | | |
| Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.) | 3.40- 3.50 | 3.50- 3.65 | 2.75- 3.00 |
| LAMBS: | | | |
| Good to Choice (90 lbs. down) | 7.25- 8.00 | 6.75- 7.25 | 5.50- 6.00 |
| EWES: | | | |
| Good to Choice | 2.25- 3.85 | 1.75- 3.00 | 2.25- 2.75 |

WHOLESALE MEAT PRICES

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED meats at Chicago on January 2, 1934, compared with December 1, 1933, and December 30, 1932, were as below (per 100 pounds):

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

| | Jan. 2, 1934 | Dec. 1, 1933 | Dec. 30, 1932 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| STEERS (700 lbs. up): | | | |
| Choice | \$ 8.00- 8.50 | \$ 8.00- 8.50 | \$ 9.00-10.00 |
| Good | 7.00- 8.00 | 7.00- 8.00 | 8.00- 9.00 |
| STEERS (550 to 700 lbs.): | | | |
| Choice | 8.00-10.00 | 8.00- 9.50 | 10.00-11.00 |
| Good | 7.00- 9.00 | 7.00- 8.50 | 8.00-10.00 |
| YEARLING STEERS: | | | |
| Choice | 10.00-11.00 | 9.00-10.50 | 10.50-12.50 |
| Good | 8.50-10.00 | 7.50- 9.50 | 8.00-10.50 |
| COWS: | | | |
| Good | 6.00- 7.00 | 5.50- 6.50 | 5.50- 6.50 |
| VEALERS: | | | |
| Choice | 8.00- 9.00 | 7.50- 8.50 | 8.00- 9.00 |
| Good | 7.00- 8.00 | 6.50- 7.50 | 7.00- 8.00 |

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| LAMBS (45 lbs. down): | | | |
| Choice | \$12.50-13.00 | \$11.00-12.50 | \$11.00-12.50 |
| Good | 12.00-12.50 | 10.00-11.50 | 10.50-11.50 |
| EWES: | | | |
| Good | 5.00- 6.00 | 4.00- 5.00 | 4.00- 5.00 |

FRESH PORK CUTS

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| LOINS: | | | |
| 8-12 lb. average | \$ 9.00-10.50 | \$ 8.00- 9.00 | \$ 6.00- 7.00 |

FEEDSTUFFS

THE PRICE OF COTTONSEED CAKE AND MEAL ON January 4 was quoted at \$21.50 a ton, f.o.b. Texas points. Hay prices at Omaha on January 2 were as follows: alfalfa—choice leafy, \$11.50; No. 1, \$10.50 to \$11; standard leafy, \$10 to \$10.50; standard, \$10; No. 2, \$8.50 to \$9.50; No. 3, \$7 to \$8.50; sample, \$5 to \$6; upland prairie—No. 1, \$9.50 to \$10.50; No. 2, \$8 to \$9; No. 3, \$6 to \$7; sample, \$5.50; midland prairie—No. 1, \$7.50 to \$8.50; No. 2, \$6 to \$6.50; sample, \$4.50 to \$5.50; mixed hay—No. 1, \$9.50 to \$10.50; No. 2, \$8 to \$9; No. 3, \$6 to \$7.

FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, December 15, 1933.

B RITISH LIVE-STOCK PRODUCERS ARE BY NO means assured that the government's intentions regarding agriculture are going to redound to the eventual benefit of their industry. In the case of the Bacon Scheme, for instance, the curers are in revolt, and have pointed out that when the Bacon Board fixed the minimum price to be paid for hogs there was a shortage, with prices at an artificial level. Now that supplies are much heavier and feeding costs lower, they suggest that a readjustment of values is essential, and a matter of some urgency. Again, they have pointed out that farmers are sending the wrong type of pigs to the factories, only a sixth of those forwarded to the factories under the contracts being found suitable for curing.

Faced with the threat of many of the larger curers withdrawing from the scheme, the farmer is beginning to blame the government for the failure of the promised prosperity to materialize. The Minister of Agriculture (Walter Elliott) has responded by warning the farmers that, if they do not supply the curers with the right type of bacon pigs, the scheme will be prejudiced. At the moment, the minister is arranging for a complete live-stock census to be taken very shortly, and has intimated that his department has under consideration schemes for beef, mutton, and pork, similar to those now in force in connection with bacon. The minister has turned a deaf ear to the reiterated assertions of the various agricultural societies that meat-producers would best be served by the imposition of tariffs upon imported meat, the revenue therefrom to be used as subsidies. The chairman of the Council of Agriculture has again drawn Mr. Elliott's attention to the desperate plight of stock-breeders, owing to the low price realized for beef, and has urged the government to deal with the problem at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Elliott informed the chairman that it is now the beef man's turn to be dealt with by the government. The crisis in live-stock reduction was of recent origin, and they had to take into account imperial as well as home production. He recognized the desirability of instituting some organization of home supplies, and imperial and foreign supplies, he said, but it was essential that they should have some system of regulation. He defended the settlement reached at Ottawa in regard to beef, and said that, if such a settlement had not resulted, the conference would have failed. In any case, the position of meat was safeguarded until June next, when a new arrangement would have to be negotiated.

The farmers' chief fear is that the government may be closely approaching centralized slaughter, at a time when neither they nor the meat industry are prepared for such a revolutionary step. The Minister of Agriculture has already met with a fair measure of success with the voluntary scheme of sale on a dead-weight basis, direct from the farmer to the wholesale meat market, but it is evident that Mr. Elliott does not consider that this scheme goes sufficiently far. For one thing, by eliminating the auctioneer, the farmers consider that the scheme introduces a principle which is risky,

so far as their welfare is concerned, as, under the ordinary conditions of production and marketing in this country, the auctioneers and the cattle-dealers fulfil a decidedly useful purpose. The farmer desiring money on account of future transactions, for instance, can always obtain an advance from the auctioneer, while the cattle-dealer absorbs any surplus beasts at any particular center and transports to any other center where a shortage exists.

The farmers and the butchers feel that the present move to cut out the **middleman goes far enough**. It gives the farmer an opportunity of notifying the nearest grader appointed by the minister as to the number, age, and weight of the cattle he has for disposal. The grader, in turn, acquaints the wholesaler with these details and obtains his quotation for the cattle, which is passed on to the farmer. If the terms are suitable, the farmer dispatches the beasts to the grader, who supervises their delivery to the wholesale meat merchant and receives his check, which is passed back to the farmer. So far, so good; but the farmers are rather reluctant to upset the auctioneers, and see a danger, once they have severed connections in that direction, of having to wait, should congestion occur, for the graders to be able to clear applications on hand. They are wondering to what the minister's new schemes will commit them, and fear that, if centralized slaughtering becomes an established fact, the cost of transporting their beasts to a distant abattoir may well far outweigh any advantage offered by higher minimum prices. In the circumstances, they feel justified in persisting with their tariff-cum-subsidy proposals.

Another new departure in this country is the compulsory use of mechanical appliances for slaughtering all cattle for food, while after January next all slaughtermen must be licensed. These changes take effect under the Slaughter of Animals Act. It is left to local opinion whether or not the act applies to sheep and lambs, but the majority of local governing bodies have passed resolutions in favor of the inclusion of these animals. The act does not apply to Jewish or Mohammedan slaughter-houses, but farmers who are in the habit of killing for their own or their neighbors' requirements come under its provisions.

Apart from the usual "fancy" prices paid for show stock, live-stock prices in the leading markets have been stable at a fairly low level, with indications at the moment of a slight rise:

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Dehorning in New Zealand

A bill has been introduced in the New Zealand Parliament by the Minister of Agriculture, making dehorning of cattle compulsory.

Karakuls in Southwest Africa

Karakul farming is proving profitable in the mandated territory of Southwest Africa (the former German colony). In 1932 there were 514,629 grade or cross-bred Karakuls in the country, and 203,309 pelts were exported.

France to Import More American Pork

In return for an increase in the amount of French wines and spirits to be admitted into the United States, the French government for the first quarter of 1934 has agreed to raise the quota of American apples and pears allowed to be imported into France to four times the present quantity, and the quota on salt pork and ham by 50 per cent.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

MEAT IN REDUCING DIETS

A warning against the adoption of "fad" diets in an effort to reduce has been sounded by Dr. Leo K. Campbell, of Rush Medical College, Chicago, who cites results of a current scientific study to show that one need not jeopardize health in order to develop a slim figure. This study has been conducted in co-operation with the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

"Reducing need not be a hardship in any sense of the word," Dr. Campbell asserts. "The idea that, in order to lose weight, one must choose a more or less unpalatable diet, low in meat and

other appetizing foods, has been disproved. The fact that marked weakness and other serious symptoms often accompany the use of certain reducing diets is a fairly good indication that they are nutritionally inadequate, if not harmful."

A reducing diet, Dr. Campbell says, should be normal, with its caloric value some 25 to 40 per cent below basal maintenance. Such a diet should contain protein of good quality; minerals, such as iron, phosphorus, and calcium; vitamins; sufficient bulk; and a minimum amount of carbohydrates and fat.

"We know definitely," he continues, "that lean meat is a valuable food in

the reducing diet, since it is an excellent source of high-quality protein, iron, and phosphorus; is one of the most palatable of foods; and creates a feeling of satisfaction long after the meal is over. The use of lean meat, along with other nutritious foods, not only makes it possible for one to reduce normally, with no discomfort, but the meat may actually aid in the loss of body fat."

As proof of the efficiency of a reducing diet, liberal in its meat allowance and, except for lessened calories, normal in all respects, this medical authority calls attention to the results obtained in the above-named study. Over a period of fourteen weeks the group of patients with whom the study is being carried on have lost an average of 26 pounds per person.

A typical daily menu of these patients is as follows:

BREAKFAST

- 1 serving of fruit (3½ oz.)
- 1 egg
- 1 slice of toast (¾ oz.)
- 1 pat of butter (¼ oz.)
- Coffee (black or with very little cream and sugar)

LUNCHEON

- 2 servings of vegetables (1 cooked and 1 raw, 3½ oz. each)
- 1 small serving of lean meat (3 oz.), or 2 eggs, or 2 tablespoons cottage cheese
- 1 slice of bread (¾ oz.)
- 1 pat of butter (¼ oz.)
- 1 glass of milk (7 oz.)
- 1 serving of fruit (3½ oz.)

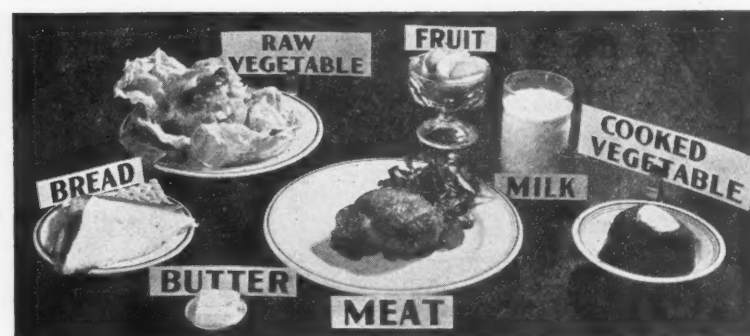
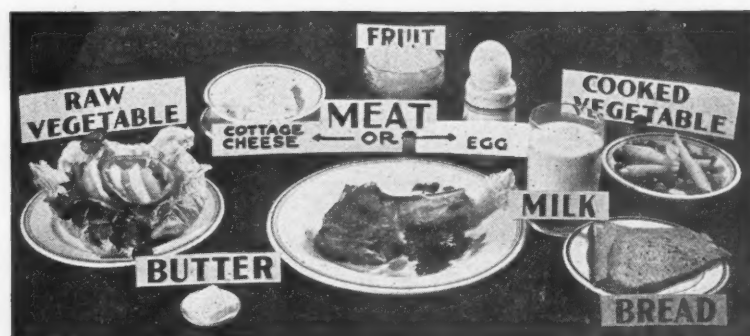
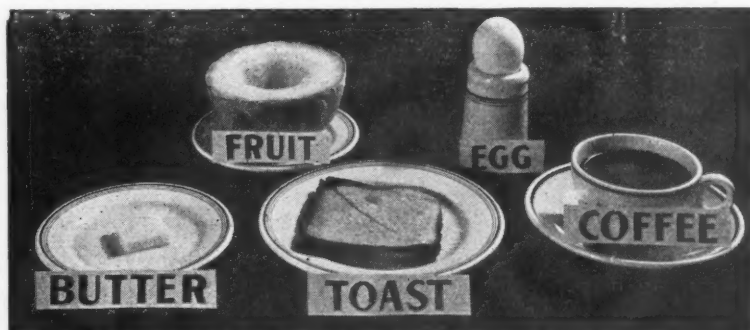
DINNER

- 1 large serving of lean meat (5 to 6 oz.)
- 2 servings of vegetables (1 cooked and 1 raw, 3½ oz. each)
- 1 slice of bread (¾ oz.)
- 1 pat of butter (¼ oz.)
- 1 glass of milk (7 oz.)
- 1 serving of fruit (3½ oz.)

This typical menu is illustrated in the accompanying picture. The number of calories is about 1,500, or from 1,000 to 1,500 less than the number contained in the normal daily menu, according to Dr. Campbell. The meat intake averages a little less than one-half pound daily.

* * *

In connection with the above, it is interesting to note a dietetic rule recently given out by Dr. Lewellyn F. Barker, of the medical staff of Johns Hopkins University. It is possible, says Dr. Barker, to eat one's fill and still stay slim—in fact, lose two to four pounds a week. If you are fat, watch your diet, he admonishes. "Exclude sugar and starchy foods, such as potatoes, bread, and corn, and eat almost any amount you wish of meat, provided there are plenty of green vegetables to go with it."



PACKERS' FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reports of the "big four" packers for the fiscal year ending October 28, 1933, are considerably more favorable than those issued a year ago. All show profits—modest in comparison with certain periods in the past, but encouraging as indicating the trend in the nation's third largest industry.

Armour

Armour & Co. had net earnings of \$8,121,641—the first profit since 1930. In 1932 the ledgers showed a loss of \$3,857,565. Tonnage was approximately 10 per cent in excess of that of the preceding year, but, owing to lower prices, the dollar value of products declined from \$468,000,000 to \$452,000,000. Cash on hand was \$26,010,651, and total current assets \$133,821,607—approximately 5.5 times current liabilities. Surplus was increased by \$7,351,761, standing now at \$24,586,081, against \$17,234,320 at the close of 1932. President T. G. Lee states that the company is "in excellent financial condition." Pay-rolls were increased by 18½ per cent during the year.

Swift

Swift & Co. report a net income of \$12,285,134. This compares with a loss of \$5,337,789 in 1932. Volume of products handled was the greatest in the history of the company, with an increase for the year of about 6 per cent. Notwithstanding this, sales dropped from \$539,000,000 to a little over \$500,000,000. Total current assets were \$159,879,612, and cash on hand \$26,196,819. Surplus stood at \$67,001,533, against \$61,105,400 a year ago. A reserve of \$4,267,000 has been set up against possible future losses due to declining inventory prices. During the year there was an increase of 435,000,000 pounds in meat production, of which 343,000,000 pounds was during the last three months.

Wilson

Net earnings of \$2,935,564 are reported by Wilson & Co., as against a deficit of \$273,193 during the preceding twelve-month period. Sales were in excess of \$140,000,000, compared with \$143,000,000 in 1932. Capital surplus, which at the end of the previous fiscal year stood at \$14,773,011, and which was increased to \$16,228,795 as the result of purchase and retirement of preferred stock of the company, was used in the reduction of property values. Cash on hand was \$5,306,381, and total current assets \$29,246,371.

Cudahy

Net profits of the Cudahy Packing Company for the year were \$1,813,766, as against \$905,985 last year, thus practically doubling earnings. Gross tonnage of the business handled was 4 per cent ahead of last year, but gross sales decreased by about \$9,000,000. Cash on hand at the end of the year was \$5,204,311, compared with \$4,698,519 in 1932. The export trade of the company showed marked improvement. Wage increases amounted to \$2,500,000.

PIG CROP LIGHTER

A reduction of about 3 per cent in the fall pig crop from last year's figures is reported by the Department of Agriculture. The number of pigs saved is given as 28,758,000, or 1,021,000 fewer than in 1932. Combined spring and fall crops totaled 80,086,000, which is about 200,000 head above those of last year. Farrowings in Corn Belt states showed a slight increase over last fall, while all other areas reported a small decrease. It is estimated that 8 per cent fewer sows will farrow next spring than last.

WORLD'S WOOL CLIP SMALLER

A reduction in the world wool clip for 1933 from that of last year, as well as from the average of the past five years, is forecast by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The bureau estimates that production in nineteen countries which are the source of more than four-fifths of the world's wool, exclusive of Russia and China, will be about 2,561,000,000 pounds. This is a decrease of 8 per cent from 1932, and is 5 per cent below the 1928-32 average.

CATTLE AND LAMBS ON FEED

Cattle

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the Corn Belt states in November were larger than the small shipments for the same month a year ago, and brought the total for the five months, July to November, inclusive, to within 100,000 head of the total for 1932, reports the Regional Live Stock Office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at Denver. This year's total is the smallest in the fifteen years for which records are available. Indications are that a smaller number of cattle will be



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fed in the Rocky Mountain states than last year, but that in states west of the Continental Divide the number will be about the same.

Lambs

Number of lambs on feed early in December was somewhat smaller than on this date a year ago in the Corn Belt, the Rocky Mountain states, and Texas, but above last year in most of the states west of the Divide.

OAKLAND TO SELL MEAT BY WEIGHT

Through the instrumentality of the Pacific Live Stock and Meat Institute, an ordinance has been passed by the City Council of Oakland, California, requiring that all fresh and smoked meat, poultry, and fish be advertised and sold by weight. Piece-selling is to be permitted only when weight and price per pound are indicated.

The ordinance, which is patterned after that now in force in San Francisco, is expected to correct certain evils which in the past have made it difficult for legitimate merchants to meet competition, and in many cases have tended to work an actual fraud on the consumer.

ARABIAN HORSE IN CALIFORNIA

Forty-four horses were sold from the University of California's W. K. Kellogg Institute of Animal Husbandry, near Pomona, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1933. Of these, thirty-two were pure-blooded Arabian horses, and twelve were listed as high-grade saddle-horses.

During the year there were 220,000 visitors to the Arabian horse farm, which is recognized as one of the show places of the state. The farm was taken over by the university a year ago as a gift from Mr. Kellogg.

INDIAN SHEEP FOR UNEMPLOYED

Purchase by the Indian Service of 100,000 sheep from the Navajo Indian ranges of Arizona, New Mexico, and southeastern Utah is announced. The sheep will be distributed among needy Indians of other sections.

TAILLESS SHEEP

At the South Dakota Experiment Station an attempt is being made to develop a tailless breed of sheep. Of fifty-three lambs born in this experiment last spring, none had tails more than four inches long, four had tails between three and four inches long, nine had tails between two and three inches long, twenty-five had tails less than two inches long, and fifteen had no tails at all.

NEW CROSSES

Cross-breeding of sheep and Angora goats has been practiced for some time by T. D. Word, a ranchman living near Sonora, Texas. Forty of these animals, for which the name of "geet" is proposed, have already been successfully raised. The hybrids grow both wool and mohair, but mixing the two makes the crop practically worthless, it is said. However, the crosses are reported to make good eating.

The latest cross of which we have read is between a cat and a raccoon. Such a beast is kept for a pet by a family in Utica, New York.

CHICKEN LESS NUTRITIOUS THAN ORDINARY MEAT

Correcting some of our beliefs regarding the vitamin content of vegetables and meats, Dr. Victor Levine, of the School of Medicine of Creighton University, speaking at a recent session of the American Congress of Physical Therapy at Chicago, said that chicken—fried, stewed, or baked—is "valuable only for social reasons." It is only about a tenth as nutritious as liver, and hardly a fourth as nutritious as ordinary meat.

CANNED RATTLESNAKE

"Apparently the live-stock and meat-packing industry must expect competition from practically all sources," says the *Meat and Live Stock Digest*. "The latest competitor of roast beef and roast pork on the family menu is canned rattlesnake meat, advertised as 'something new for the dinner table.'

"This product made its bow to the public in a recent issue of the *American Weekly*—a publication with a circulation of some six million.

"George K. End, of Arcadia, Florida, helped his small sons kill and skin a rattlesnake some two years ago. Mr. End observed that the reptile's flesh was a pale salmon-pink. He decided to try it, and found that it was tender and of excellent flavor, so he said.

"At the present time it seems that a rather large amount of the product is being distributed."

RANGE AND LIVE-STOCK CONDITIONS AS REPORTED BY STOCKMEN

California

This is from the northern part of California: Cattle and sheep are in good condition. We have had some rains, and feed is sufficient in most places. Most people have had good hay crops. We feed quite a bit of hay some winters. The weather is favorable. The financial end, however, is bad—worse than last year. The NRA had better get busy if it is going to help the stockmen in this locality.—T. F. HUNTER, Kneeland.

Montana

The past summer was very dry in the foothills, where we are located, and consequently the hay crop is short. However, late rains in the latter part of August and early in September revived the pastures and filled the streams. So far this winter we have had no snow at all, and cattle are going into the winter in splendid condition.—THEY PEARSON, President, Austin Land and Live Stock Company, Cascade.

South Dakota

We are fortunate along Elk Creek in western South Dakota to have feed and plenty of water, in spite of its being such an extremely dry and warm winter.—RAY M. IVES, New Underwood.

Sensitive Soul.—Conductor on Street Car—"Hey, boy, wake up!"

Boy—"I ain't asleep. I just got my eyes closed. I can't bear to see women standing in a crowded street-car."—Yellow Jacket.

May Be as Good as New.—"Mom," said the little daughter of the grass widow who was planning to marry a grass widower.

"What is it, dear?" asked her mother. "Do you get this daddy cheaper because he is second-hand?" she inquired.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Did Her Best.—A girl met an old flame and determined to high-hat him. "Sorry," she murmured when the hostess introduced him to her, "but I did not get your name."

"I know you didn't," replied the old flame, "but that's not your fault. You tried hard enough."—Exchange.

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